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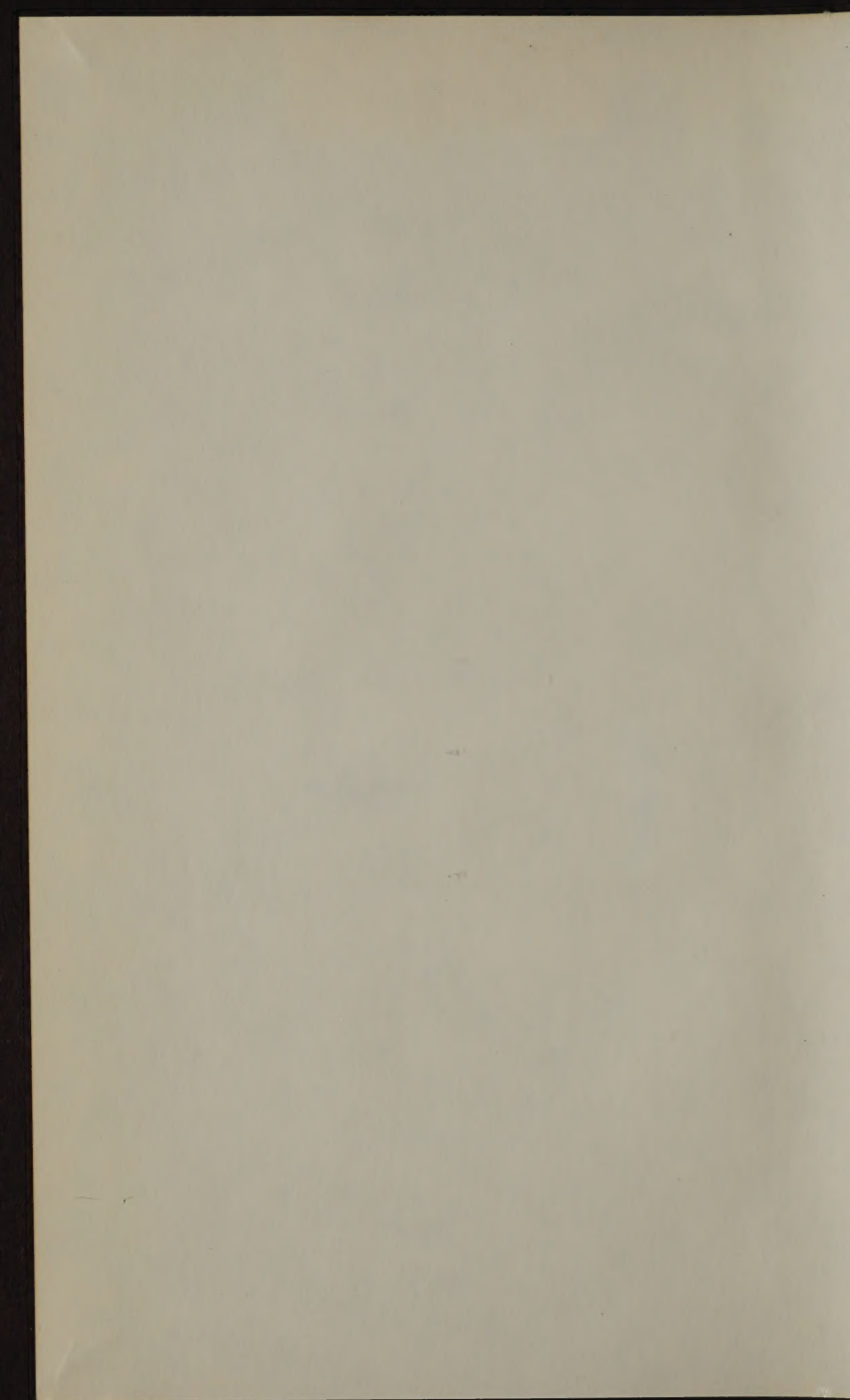
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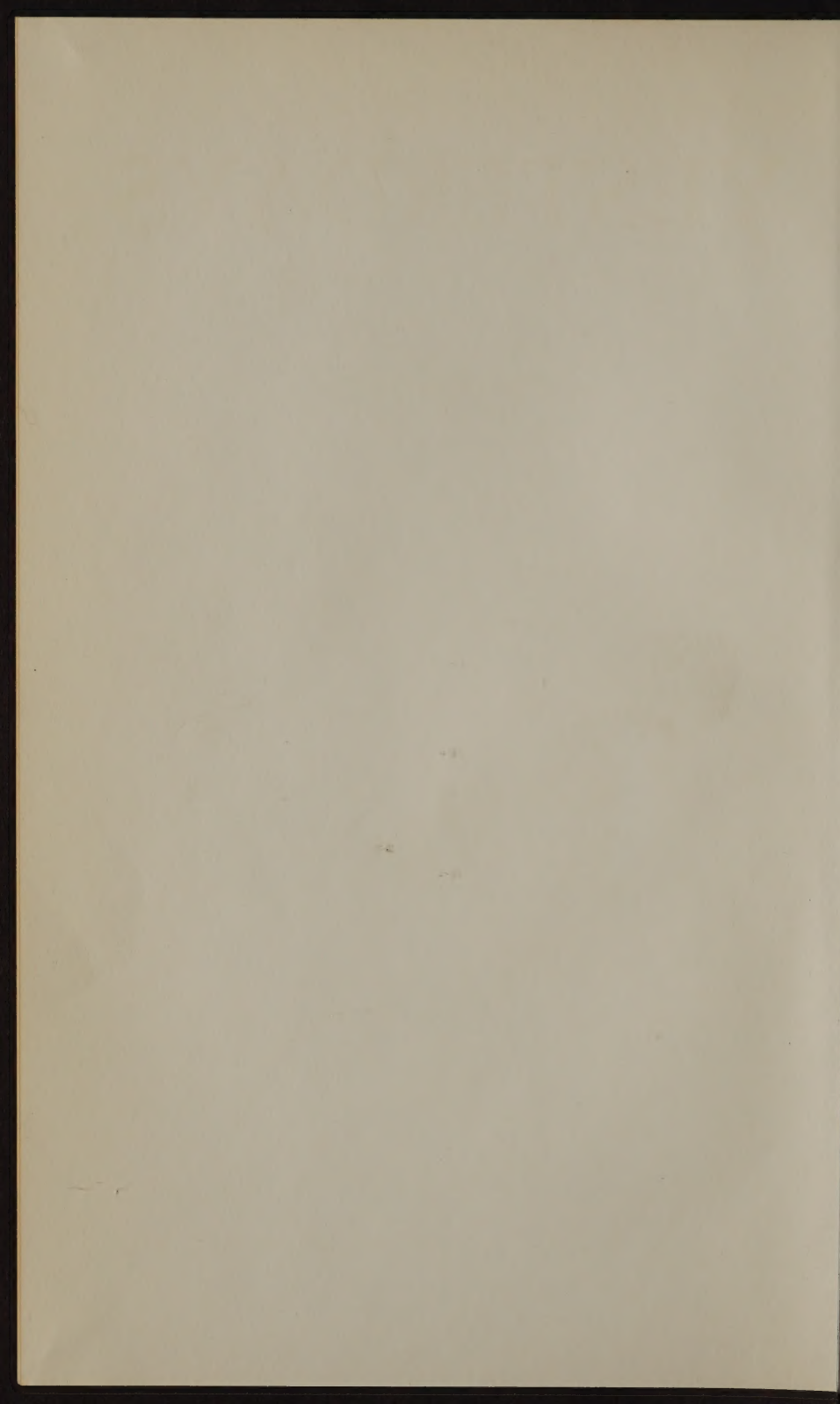
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BOOK III

By Elizabeth L. Crocker

FREDONIA, NEW YORK
1962

"Yesterdays" Appears as a Weekly Column in The Fredonia Censor

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To
MY MOTHER

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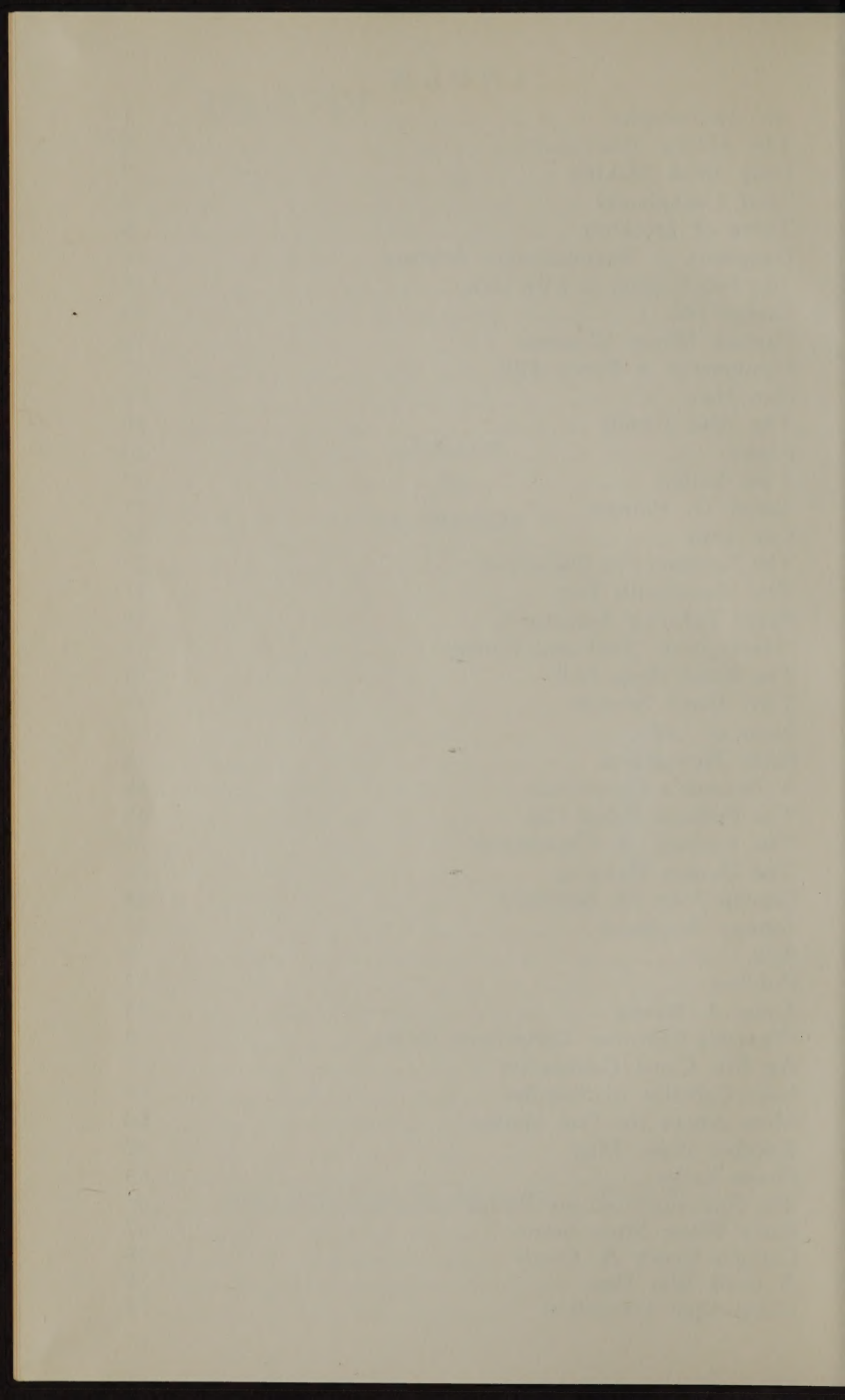
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An Archeologist

Living in Irving, N. Y., is Mr. Everett Burmaster, a remarkable man who shares most generously with his friends the knowledge gained from his experiences and discoveries in the fields of archeology and Indian lore.

Mr. Burmaster, born in the "Grassy Place" as he tells us Irving was called, was indeed a far from ordinary child. When but old enough to follow the plough and walk in the furrows he became aware of stones of odd formations. He began collecting arrow heads and bits of animal bones. Not being satisfied just to find and save these items but, displaying an unusual interest for a child of his age, he wanted to know why they were there and whence they had come. Thus the story of Mr. Burmaster's great life interest and his valuable achievements and contributions in the field of archeology began.

While a youngster of 10 years of age, quietly listening in his uncle's tavern and in the stores about town, he overheard stories told by the Indians who came to trade. Also by being a friend to these people from the Seneca Reservation he acquired additional knowledge of their lives and their beliefs.

Mr. Burmaster's father leased many acres of land near the mouth of Cattaraugus Creek, and on this great plain the son watched the ground after every rain. There he found beautiful arrow points, bones, hatchet heads, and strange relics with holes having been drilled through them some way. By this time he had learned that some were gorgest and some were bannerstones. A collector told him that some were older than the Senecas by hundreds of years, and possibly had been

made by Mound Builders. This suggestion led the boy to wonder as to whether there might truly be mounds in this area.

Everett Burmaster found there were many, some on the reservation, and some farther westward in Chautauqua County and one or two on the fields where he had gathered his prize trophies. He learned that the mounds were not all high, some having been plowed down to a height of three or four feet. The boy was told that rare vases, urns and strings of beads had been found in this very location. The Indians did not like to have their articles and bones dug up saying that their Indian brothers should be allowed to rest in peace, that the white man had taken their land and now wanted their bones.

It was about this time that Mr. Burmaster, still a young boy, heard that two men had come from Harvard University to excavate on Johnny Kennedys' place on the reservation. Years before, a missionary named Asher Wright had noticed pieces of pottery on the farm and had reported this fact to the Buffalo Historical Society. A representative of that society discovered there, among other items, a buffalo skull. The report of this, however, aroused very little attention at the time. Now there was a renewed interest in this section.

Everett visited the farm and spent much time observing the methods used by these Harvard men; the way they carefully treated and preserved the bones, measured the distances as to where bones and artifacts were found, made diagrams, took photographs and kept exact notes of their findings. The boy having carried a basket of his treasures to show the men, im-

mediately attracted their attention and they realized that here was a boy of unusual appreciation of relics and stories and the knowledge of history which could be obtained from this study. The boy was invited to join the men in their explorations.

Mr. Burmaster tells us that he then learned that the site was that of the nation called the Eries and that they were defeated in a great battle about 1655 and it might even have been in that particular location that they lost. He remembers the discovery of the ridge in front of the area, the ridge looking like a wall that had been ploughed down. During the boy's regular visits to the scene of activity he found these men working here were Mr. M. R. Harrington and Mr. Arthur Parker, field representatives of the Peabody Museum of American Archeology and Ethnology and had come here to discover the lost facts of the ancestors of the Indians and to compile this data so that it would be preserved forever.

Among the discoveries in this project were pipes, beads of bone, stone and shell, and even bits of European brass passed along by early traders. Even an effigy of a small doll which was recognized by a lady on the reservation as a doll used to cast spells, an "otgont gayahdah" was found. This was in 1903.

Mr. Burmaster said that many prominent men came to witness the operations. Among them was our Hon. Obed Edson of Sinclairville who had himself made a study of archeology of Chautauqua County. Mr. Edson was kind to this young boy and showed respect and appreciation for his knowledge. He spoke in terms which were understandable to a boy of so few years. It was Mr. Edson who

told him how the land was built and how there was a Chemung outcropping here and a Portage layer beneath and that we rested on Devonian layers and that all those fossils that came out of the rocks lived as animals and plants ages ago.

Mr. Burmaster's contributions, in the way of discoveries and in the way of art and construction of miniatures to thereby preserve the story of the Indians, have been truly wonderful. It has been through his keen observation and care that this work has been accomplished.

It was a happy day for this young man when he was asked by Mr. Parker to accompany him and serve as a helper in digging up the Burning Spring site which location is about where the Big Indian Creek empties into the Cattaraugus. Here some very fine photographs were made with Carl, a cousin of Mr. Parker, serving as the model. Some of these pictures were used in the State Museum Bulletin No. 125. The first illustrations of how the Senecas felled trees with fire and held the flames back by wads of clay about four feet from the ground were made at that time.

In the spring of 1906 Mr. Burmaster was invited by Mr. Parker to do some digging at Ripley where Mr. Harrington had started to excavate two years before. The men set up their camp on the Young farm, an ancient Erie site where presumably there were graves and ashes of camp fires. The "hunters" leased the land for the season. To Mr. Burmaster's great satisfaction they found a skeleton. Every bone was brought out, tagged, wrapped in tissue and placed in a box. Part of this first find in the Erie Indian Village appears in the State Bulletin No. 144. For this discovery the finder received

great praise. Mr. Burmaster tells us that when Obed Edson visited the scene he told the men that they had made the first scientific exploration of an Erie site ever done and that they had done it with the best technique known at that time.

In the fall of 1906 Mr. Parker, who had become State Archeologist as a result of a competitive examination, took to Albany the artifacts which had been found. We are told by Mr. Burmaster that this was the first time in the history of the New York State Museum that "a completely associated culture complex" had been gathered for the State.

Mr. Edson, being so interested in this field of activity, informed the men of many other sites throughout the county, among them the earthen wall with a pit inside, located in Gerry township on the McCullough farm.

With better camping equipment the 1907 expedition opened at the McCullough site. Mr. Edson offered his surveying instruments so that accurate mapping was possible and he often joined the working group. It was here that Mr. Burmaster found a bone and upon scraping and brushing, the outline of a skull appeared, then other bones and here was revealed an encircling line of skulls. A total of about 34 skeletons were found but nothing else with them.

Many sites of interest were discovered and visited. At Ellington were two sites, in Poland on the Cheney farm was a mound with a wall and ditch around it, one at Towerville and another site at Findley Lake. It is stated that as the men continued their explorations they were impressed that so much of the county had been occupied by groups of Indians and that even marginal groups of mound building Indians had

lived here. It is believed that elephants must have roamed our entire county-most of them being mastodons, proof of which are bones that have been found in Westfield, Portland, Jamestown and in the Cassadaga and Conewango Valleys. Some are said to have been found in Sheridan.

Mr. Burmaster's interest and knowledge in the field of archeology was soon recognized and he was invited to the State Museum at Albany and there found a desk in the State Archeologist's Laboratory. He helped classify objects and worked in the preparation department. He was asked to remain and prepare our material for the new museum to be established in the State Education Building. Here he worked with a French modeler named Marchant.

At the Rochester Museum he erected an Indian log cabin which showed the last flickering of Seneca customs and their adaptation of the log houses. He was commissioned to get a cabin and reduce its size so it could be set up in the museum in Edgerton Park, Rochester. It was the cabin which had been built at the Tonawanda Indian Village after the American Revolution. Mr. Burmaster was also employed for work in the State Museum in Ontario County.

His journeys took him to Springfield, Ill. to assist Mr. Marchant and his sons. In the Buffalo Museum of Science he designed a Seneca Indian Village in miniature. The completed idea was to be diorama in several parts showing the various divisions of Indian life and industry. Mr. Marchant's sons assisted by painting the background and modeling the small figures while Mr. Burmaster made a scale model of the longhouse and the furnishings. The whole exhibit as seen in Buffalo is most educational.

These efforts were rewarded with little remuneration but with the satisfaction that he

has given to us a true picture of the life of the very early inhabitants of our area.

The Hilton Brickyards

Pioneer settlers in America, most of them coming from England, had been compelled in their home land to resort to the use of stone and brick, to a large degree, in building because of a shortage of timber. Therefore it is not surprising that some of our pioneers had mastered the skill of brick-making in their native land and hence engaged in that industry after settling in America. That was the case of John Hilton who located in Dunkirk.

Mr. Hilton was born at Birkenhead, across the River Mersey from Liverpool and came to America with his parents. He married here and had three children. He had not become an American citizen when the Civil War brought out. He automatically gained his citizenship when he enlisted. One battle in which he fought was Antietam.

Mr. Hilton's forefathers had also been brick makers. In his early days men who were engaged in this work travelled to the site of whatever contract they were working on and made the brick there. Under Sir Thomas Brassey, he had spent four years in France at Rouen and he often told of the market place where Joan of Arc was burned. In his time there was a fountain on the site. John Hilton spoke French fluently and Professor Babcock, who at that time was superintendent of the Dunkirk schools, often consulted him on his own French. Mr. Hilton had also spent some time in Wales and therefore spoke Welsh. The family had owned a brick yard at Chester, near the Welsh border, and he

frequently described the old Roman wall which surrounded the city of Chester.

At the time the Hilton family came to this country they founded a brick yard in East Dunkirk. To assist in their work they brought over Polish immigrants. This is the reason for the large Polish settlement in East Dunkirk. Mr. Hilton also tried Chinese, bringing them from California. He built a small red house near the brick yard for them to live in. As bricks could only be made in the warmer weather these Chinese would attend school in the Winter. Their employer had to keep them supplied with rice, buying it by the barrel. If the supply became low they would say, "no ricie, no workee" One day they did not appear for work so Mr. Hilton went to "Red House" to see why and found the house empty. They had left during the night and he never heard of them again. They were not very successful at the work since their hands were too small for the heavy bricklayer's work. He tried out different nationalities but the Polish did the best work. They also cleverly "squeezed out" other workers wishing only their own group to work with them.

When the clay gave out in the area of their first location the Hiltons bought land along the Lake Road, west of the Point Gratiot Road and extending to the Lake Shore Railroad tracks. For many years they operated the brick yard at this site. Most of the bricks in the Locomotive works were from the Hilton brick yard, and to-day many

bricks are found with the name Hilton on them. After Mr. Hilton's death that brick yard was sold to the Wright brothers and the land used for other purposes.

Captain John Hilton was a Mason, Knight Templar and a Shriner. He was a member of the Episcopal Church and active in the G.A.R. He is buried in Forest Hill Cemetery, Fredonia.

The brick making industry was continued in Dunkirk by sons of Mr. John Hilton. In the F. W. Beers & Co. Atlas for 1881 is an advertisement of William Hilton, brick manufacturer of Dunkirk. In 1896 we find that Walter Hilton who succeeded his father, William Hilton, four years before, was constructing his brick yard on West Front Street

in Dunkirk. The plant at that time had a capacity of 3,000,000 bricks per year and gave employment to about 20 men for the greater part of the year. He is said to have attributed much of his success to the fact that he sold good brick at the right price.

Walter, son of William Hilton, invented a paddle machine for this industry. This machine was improved to meet modern needs and is to-day used in brick manufacturing.

The writer, through the keen observation of Mr. Jerry Deunk and through the generosity of Mr. Gillette Morgan, both of Cassadaga, now has in her possession a brick with the words "W. E. Hilton, Dunkirk, N. Y." on it.

Early Brick Making

The pioneers of Western New York found an ample supply of timber and together with the fact that the trees had to be felled to clear the land, wood was the logical material from which to construct first cabins, and then houses. Therefore the very early settlers did not use stone and brick for their abodes. The first use of these materials was more as accessory materials to wooden buildings and gradually brick came into use for dwellings.

For many years bricks were made by hand and that is an industry which dates back many centuries. There are a number of references in the Bible to this occupation. In Exodus mention is made of straw being used in the making of bricks.

The construction of this product by hand was a long and tedious job. As we progressed into the mechanized period the hand work in the process was eliminated as much as was pos-

sible. However it is the method which was used in the making of bricks by hand that is so interesting.

It had been found that clay alone would not make bricks. Because of the chemical content and the physical condition of the clay certain mineral and organic additions were necessary. By experimenting it was discovered that the uniting of loam to the clay made the mixture possible to be worked, dried and fired. When it came from the kiln it was of proper hardness, color and texture.

Very often the bricks were made upon the site of the building to be constructed if clay was located there. Otherwise they were made where a bed of clay was discovered. When a bed was found the clay was removed in proper quantities to a yard or floor for mixing. There the loam was added. The task of mixing the clay and loam was a tremendous one,

various methods for this being employed. Reuben Neate of Jamestown used oxen for this process. A log bristling with stumpy, short limbs was hauled by oxen round and round over the clay mixture. After the clay was mixed to the proper consistency it was left exposed to the atmosphere for some time to cure.

The next operation was that of mixing the mass with water forming a plastic homogenous mass. Mr. Neate used a "pug mill", a tub like invention similar in principle to a modern cement mixer. The pug mill remained stationary and a central verticle shaft studded with paddles and cutting knives which revolved by horse power gradually pushed to the bottom of the mill the clay and water which had now become a mass adhesive enough to be forced into moulds.

A man stood at the foot of the mill and with his bare hands received a gob of clay. Wooden moulds had been prepared and sanded so to prevent the wet bricks from adhering to the moulds. The man at the pug mill fitted the clay mixture into the mould and carefully trimmed off the surplus clay from the mould. The moulds were then moved to the drying grounds where they were regularly turned.

The brick maker carefully moved the bricks, now partly dry, and ready to be baked, to the kiln. Each form had to be moved by hand, and indeed handled many times. These were carefully fitted into the kiln and made ready to be fired or burned.

The process of burning the bricks was also important. The heat had to be right, the draft regulated and the length of time allowed for baking had to be correct. It was necessary that the man in charge of this process watch for the colored gases which at a crucial moment seemed to leap forth from the cracks of the kiln. This was a signal to the watching man. More than one of these large ovens was usually employed since each one was allowed to cool before being used again.

Through the hand made brick period the journeyman brick maker was much in evidence. He usually made the product on the farm providing a clay bed was near.

The Chautauqua County Directory of 1873-74 mentions eight brick manufacturers, these being located in different parts of the county; J. and W. Hilton of Dunkirk, John F. and Samuel Leavers of Sinclairville, Lord and Babcock in Busti, Michael Cummings, Dunkirk, Reuben Neate of Levant and Jamestown, Samuel M. Nickerson in Fluvanna and Levant, Charles A. Morley of Silver Creek and Warren Rickard of Findley Lake. Without doubt there were others. The 1854 map of Chautauqua county shows the location of a brick yard on the Henry Baker farm in the southwest corner of Jamestown. It is also known that James Harrison had a brick yard on West Third Street near its junction with Fairmount Avenue in Jamestown.

The writer has not been able to find an authentic record of the first brick building erected in Pomfret.

Chief Cornplanter

"Distinguished for talents, and love for his tribe and race to courage, eloquence, sobriety, whose welfare he devoted his

time, his energies, and his means during a long and eventful life”.

These words appear on a marble monument erected to the memory of Chief Cornplanter in the Indian burying ground on Cornplanter's Island. The land for this reservation, which is really not an island, but a wide stretch of bottom land bordered on the east by the Allegany River, was granted by the State of Pennsylvania. The marker was placed in 1866 as a tribute to the Indian who was chief of the Seneca tribe and principal chief of the Six Nations from the period of the Revolutionary War until his death.

The story of Cornplanter's life is closely interwoven with the history of early Western New York.

Cornplanter was born about 1732 at Conewangus on the Genesee River near Avon in Livingston County, New York. His father was John O'Bail, an adventurous Irishman and his mother was a full blooded Seneca woman.

John O'Bail soon divorced his Indian wife. She shortly acquired another husband and to them were born two sons, both of whom achieved distinction and became chiefs in their tribe. One was Blacksnake, about 10 years younger than Cornplanter. He displayed statesmanship ability and came to be known as Governor Blacksnake. The brother was Handsome Lake who was a rover and because of his interest in mysticism became known as The Prophet.

After the Eries had been destroyed by the Iroquois, the Senecas had title to the land south of Lake Erie. It was in 1749 that the French explorers discovered the possibility of a route from Lake Erie to Chautauqua Lake which would lead into the western territory and four years later they cut the

Portage Road from Barcelona to Mayville.

The French had won the favor of the Indians by gifts and by their respect for the Indian rites.

In 1754 the French built Fort DuQuesne despite great annoyance by the English who sent General Braddock with the objective of driving them out of the country. The defeat of General Braddock proved to be an Indian victory rather than a French victory. One of the leading planners of the battle was the Seneca warrior Cornplanter, whose Indian name was Cy-Ant-Wa-Hia.

This warrior was rather lost sight of for the next 20 years or so. Authorities in Indian history agree that as the French failed, the Indians turned their interest and support to the English. It is believed that Cornplanter with his warriors participated in the principal Indian engagements during the Revolution. He is believed to have been at Wyoming in July, 1778 and at Cherry Valley four months later. It is recorded that he opposed General Washington's expedition under General Sullivan in 1779. Cornplanter led the invasion of the Mohawk Valley and took some Revolutionary prisoners among whom he recognized one as his father. He had Mr. O'Bail safely escorted to his home on the Mohawk.

In 1790 three Seneca chiefs, Big Tree, Cornplanter and Halftown met President Washington at Philadelphia and presented a memorial stating their complaints. It is a most eloquent address and authorities claim that this was dedicated by Cornplanter as it is recorded.

Cornplanter was a signer of several treaties; that of Ft. Stanwix in 1784, Ft. Harmer in 1789 when he surrendered an immense tract of Seneca lands for which his life was threatened

by his brethren. In 1791 he was appointed by the government as an envoy to some western tribes. In 1797 Cornplanter and two other leaders, Red Jacket and Blacksnake, with 40 other sachems and chiefs, made the Treaty of the Big Tree.

Although Cornplanter fought against us through the Revolution his subsequent efforts to preserve peace won for him the respect of the nation. His son, Henry O'Bail, received a major's commission in the U. S. Army during the War of 1812.

In 1816 Cornplanter and his people were living on a tract of 1,300 acres seven miles below Warren. At his request a school had been established there by

the Western Missionary Society and it is said that the chief accepted the Christian religion. He was receiving a federal annuity of \$250 and a share of \$9,000 which was divided among the members of his nation. Handsome Lake died there with Cornplanter in 1816. Some years later the tract of about 1,600 acres was granted to him and his heirs. The tract lies on the west bank of the Allegheny River opposite Corydon, Pa., and it was there that the warrior ended his days in 1836 at the age of over 100.

Cornplanter's descendants live on the Island and are engaged in the raising of cattle and crops.

The Town of Stockton

The Town of Stockton was formed from Chautauqua Feb. 9, 1821 and was named in honor of Richard Stockton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. It now includes in addition to the village of Stockton, the villages of Cassadaga, South Stockton, Centralia and the settlement of Moons. Cassadaga and Bear Lakes are largely in Stockton, extending north into the Town of Pomfret.

There is often a question as to exactly which man was the first settler in a town. Sources of information sometimes disagree. The records of the Holland Land Co. show that Hezekiah Vail was the first to file on land in Stockton in 1809. In an old hand-written record John Silsby is given credit for being the first to arrive. And in another account written by an elderly early inhabitant of the town it appears that the first person interested in settling in the Stockton area was Jonathan Bugbee.

The account states that he came to this wooded section from Madison County with the idea of investigating the wilderness of Chautauqua (as it was then) with the plan of establishing a home. He decided on a location at the south part of the present Town of Stockton, now called Centralia. On his return to his home he stopped in Batavia and received an article which would entitle him to a deed of 205 acres at \$2.50 per acre. In the Winter of 1811 he again came to the spot he had started to clear, accompanied by his parents and two brothers, Wyman and Simeon.

About 1810 John West, Bela Todd and Joseph Green, all of Herkimer County, began clearing land about one-half mile west of the Bugbees. Two miles farther west David Waterbury, Shadrach Scofield and Henry Walker of Saratoga County had formed a settlement. These were soon followed by others and in 1814 a log school house was

erected near Denton's Corners.

A log blacksmith shop was built by Dexter Barnes who also supplied axes to the settlers for many miles about. Henry Walker became the justice of peace by appointment of the Governor. Bela Todd started a log tavern in 1814, and Lewis Bump opened a small store and Dr. E. P. Stedman and Dr. Carlton Jones cared for the ill.

The first marriage of a white couple in Stockton was that of John West and Martha Barnhart. Mr. West opened a log tavern which he conducted for about 25 years. In 1815 a Baptist Church was organized at the log school house with Dr. Asa Turner as pastor. A little later a Christian Church was started by Joseph Bailey. Two miles southeast of Bugbees (now South Stockton) Abel Brunson from Chenango County settled in April 1811 and Resolved Fenner moved to that vicinity soon after.

In the Spring of 1811 Benjamin Miller erected the first dwelling at what was early known as Bear Creek Corners. There a store was opened by James Haywood in 1817, a Baptist Church was organized and Hiram Lazell and Elijah Nelson provided a much needed saw mill in 1818 and, a year later, a grist mill. Calvin Warren secured the land about Bear Lake outlet in 1816.

The Holland Land Co., in order to encourage migration, began the opening of a roadway from Mayville eastward, its course being through the south part of Stockton. The first postmaster at Delanti, now the village of Stockton, was Dr. Waterman Ellsworth who settled there in 1824.

Lumbering on the Cassadaga Creek was an early industry. The mill on this creek at South Stockton was built by R. W.

Fenner in 1824. The next and last mill on the Cassadaga from which lumber was run to the southern market was built by Bela Todd about 1829 and sold to Charles Cooper who built a carding and cloth-dressing establishment.

It is hardly believable to one who has recently seen the upper Cassadaga Creek about South Stockton that a lumber raft could ever be run down that small stream. The usual size of a raft was 16 feet wide and the length of five 16-foot boards, from 70 to 80 feet. The rafts were rigged with an oar or sweep on each end to guide the raft. They were large to be handled in so small a stream. When the mouth of the Cassadaga Creek was reached two rafts were coupled together lengthwise and thence run to the Alleghany fleet.

Another interesting fact about the area is the large and rich deposit of shell marl which underlies the bed of ancient Cassadaga Lake, embracing the Cassadaga Lakes and surrounding swamps and marshes. Analysis proved it to be identical with the English chalk cliffs from which celebrated Portland cement is made. From the marl was made a dark colored lime which furnished the pioneer cabins with their plastering. This was used in the Cassadaga Church.

The marl was found in abundance in the immediate vicinity of the lakes and was prepared for common use. In about 1890 the Chautauqua Cement Co. was organized, a large acreage having been purchased and a mill, compounding rooms, laboratory and kiln established adjoining the D.A.V. and P. Railroad near the Cassadaga station. This industry however, seems not to have been of lasting importance.

Daughters of Revolutionary Soldiers

A great effort has been made to locate and suitably mark the graves of all Revolutionary soldiers. This endeavor as a project of the Daughters of the American Revolution has been successfully carried on although the exact location of a few of the graves has not been proved.

It has also been of concern and interest to find and mark the resting places of the daughters of the Revolutionary soldiers. These women are referred to as "real daughters" as a differentiation from grand- and great - granddaughters. They shared the responsibilities and privations which were present in every Revolutionary soldier's family.

When the national society of the Daughters of the American Revolution was formed in 1890 there were but few widows of Revolutionary soldiers living. Many daughters, however, were located.

Six of these real daughters affiliated with our Benjamin Prescott Chapter at Fredonia. Unmarked graves of other daughters buried in cemeteries near us have been found. Graves of two local daughters have been especially noted, one in our Pioneer Cemetery and the other in Forest Hill Cemetery.

Agnes Pettit Sinnott, daughter of Jonathan Pettit, Revolutionary soldier, and his wife Agnes Riddle Pettit, was a local resident for years. She was born in Sherburne, Chenango County, N. Y., on Aug. 29, 1797 and died in Fredonia March 6, 1875 where she is buried in Forest Hill Cemetery. There is no marker for her but her grandson, William Gaston, is buried at her left and he does have a stone.

Lucy Felt Pettit was a daughter of Samuel Felt, the Revolutionary soldier of Somers, Conn.,

and his wife, Mehitabel Buel Felt. Lucy was born in Somers on March 3, 1777 and on Nov. 5, 1797 she was married to Dr. James Pettit at Hamilton, N. Y. Capt. Samuel Felt was born April 13, 1735, and died July 31, 1803 at Lebanon, N. Y. In the Pioneer Cemetery on East Main Street, near the northwest corner at the left of the path, is the daughter's grave with a marble marker. Mrs. Lucy Felt Pettit was the grandmother of the late Mrs. Rose Pettit Crandall of Fredonia and Mrs. Sinnott was her great-aunt.

The real daughters who became members of the Benjamin Prescott chapter were not all residents of Fredonia.

Elizabeth Hood Perkins who was accepted into membership of the National Society June 4, 1902, was born in the town of Windham, Greene County, N.Y., the daughter of William and Sally (Mac Lean) Hood, his third wife, who was born in 1792. Elizabeth Hood's home was for many years in California where she passed away. The Revolutionary soldier father, William Hood, was born in Providence, R. I., and enlisted at Vellster County, R. I., when but 14 years of age. He served at three different periods. His death occurred in the Town of Pomfret on Aug. 8, 1858 at the age of 90 and he was buried in our Pioneer Cemetery.

The official bronze tablet was placed on the grave of Charlotte Root Godfrey in the Godfrey Settlement Cemetery May 27, 1935. At the request of the Benjamin Prescott Chapter it was erected by the Capt. John Harris chapter of Norwich, N. Y. This real daughter was born in Oxford on June 29, 1805 and passed away at her home near Guilford Sept. 30, 1900. Her mother was Cynthia Whipple

who was born during the Battle of Bennington within the sound of the guns. Her father, but 17 years of age, was fighting in that battle.

Both Mrs. Godfrey and her sister, Mrs. Harriet Young, were voted into membership of the Benjamin Prescott Chapter and because of the advanced ages of the applicants, special action was taken upon their papers in Washington and on Oct. 3, the day Mrs. Godfrey was buried, her name was enrolled in Washington as a member of the Fredonia chapter.

Mrs. Harriet Young died Sept. 30, 1901. The Revolutionary father of Mrs. Godfrey and Mrs. Young was Ebenezer Root who was born in Great Barrington, Mass., in 1760. He served five terms of enlistment as a Minute Man. He died in Oxford in 1842 at the age of 82.

Abigail Rugg Strong was born in Perrysburg, N. Y., Oct. 12, 1837 and died July 27, 1929 at Morris, Ill. She married Ledurnia Strong at Aurora, N. Y.

Mrs. Strong's sister, Mrs. Almira Rugg Leonard, was also born in Perrysburg, her birthday being April 2, 1823. She lived until May 5, 1919 and for many

years her residence was in Otto, Cattaraugus County. An impressive service was held by members of our local chapter at the cemetery at West Perrysburg when the bronze marker on the grave of Mrs. Leonard, was unveiled.

The father of Mrs. Strong and Mrs. Leonard, Isaac Rugg, was born in Greenwich, Mass. and died in Perrysburg Jan. 30, 1853. He married as his third wife, Abigail Skinner who was born Jan. 7, 1795 and passed away in 1849. The soldier enlisted at Whitingham, Winsor County, Va.

Another real daughter who became a member of our local organization was Virtue Cole, the youngest daughter of Samuel Sinclear, the founder of our neighboring town, Sinclairville. This daughter was born July 4, 1811. In 1835 she was married to Chester Cole. Late in life Mr. and Mrs. Cole moved to Hillsdale, Mich., where they died. Major Sinclear, born in New Hampshire May 10, 1762, enlisted in the war at the age of 15. He died in Sinclairville Feb. 8, 1827. His four brothers also served in the Revolutionary War. Virtue Cole lived until Dec. 22, 1905.

The Fox Cottage at Lily Dale

The great interest in Spiritualism in Pomfret began in Laona, and resulted in the establishment of one of the most important assembling places in the United States. The grounds of the Cassadaga Lake Free Association of Lily Dale were dedicated in 1880.

In May 1916 the historic Fox cottage was brought from Hydesville, now a part of Newark, near Rochester, and placed at Lily Dale. This famous cottage, because of the phenomena

of the Hydesville "rappings," drew together bands of Free-thinkers or followers of mesmerism into the Spiritualistic movement.

Events which occurred in this small home created an early interest in the belief of communication with the spirits of the departed. The cottage thus became known as the birthplace of Spiritualism.

In Hydesville lived Mr. John D. Fox and his family, much respected by their neighbors as

honest and upright people. The two youngest children, Margaret, 12 years old, and Kate, 9 years old, were living there with their parents. Soon after taking up their residence in Hydesville in December 1847 the family began hearing knockings in the house which increased in loudness and frequency as the days passed.

Night after night Mr. and Mrs. Fox were aroused and by candle light thoroughly searched the house but never discovered anything unusual. The rappings continued. Kate happened to remark that as often as her father shook a window sash to see if the noises came from the building the knockings seemed to reply. Turning to where the noise was, she silently snapped her fingers by bringing her thumb and forefinger together, to discover whether she could obtain a reply. At the same time she called, "Here, do as I do!" The rapping responded, convincing Kate that the mysterious something could see as well as hear.

Questions were answered. Neighbors were called in and their questions were also answered. The news spread and utmost excitement prevailed in the little village and beyond it. Formal depositions appeared in more than one publication. The earliest of these was published in April 1848, a pamphlet of 40 pages which contains 21 certificates, chiefly given by the immediate neighbors. Most of the witnesses offer to confirm their statements, if necessary under oath, and express their conviction that the family had no agency in producing these sounds which were heard in the Fox cottage.

Kate was sent on a visit to Mrs. Fish, a married sister, who lived in Rochester. The only result was that while rappings in

the Fox cottage did not cease, a new and more extended scene of operation was given them at Rochester whither they followed Kate, and were found also to accompany her sister and a girl who resided with Mrs. Fish.

On one occasion a visitor suggested that the alphabet should be called over to see if the sounds would respond to the required letters and so spell out a communication. A shower of raps followed indicating that that was what the mysterious spirit wished. The first message so given was, "We are all your dear friends and relatives." Then the name Jacob Smith, Mrs. Fish's grandfather, was given. Previous to this spiritual telegraphy thus commenced, the only mode of communication had been by asking questions, one rap being understood as a negative reply and three an affirmative reply, and two indicating the question could not be answered or as doubtful. A signal was now requested which would indicate when the alphabet was required. This special rapping was established and thus a code of signals was instituted.

Through the rappings a message was received that the facts should be given to the world. Instructions were given as to when and where and by whom this was to be done. On Nov. 14, 1848, a public lecture was delivered in the Corinthian Hall, Rochester, to an audience of 400 persons. The rappings, as promised, were distinctly heard in all parts of the hall. A committee was appointed at this meeting to investigate the subject and report at a subsequent meeting. Circles appeared in many sections of the United States. Not only were rappings heard but new phases of psychic phenomena were developed.

Professor Hare conducted a series of experiments trying to

prove that the rappings were a result of natural causes. The men of the scientific world were surprised when a book appeared with his name as the author entitled, "Spiritualism, Scientifically Demonstrated" instead of a report of explanation as was expected. The new book contained diagrams of invented methods of testing the genuineness of the phenomena. About this time the Hon. J. W. Edmonds, Judge in the Court of Appeals for the State of New York, became interested in investigating with many mediums. He took notes and published two volumes under the

title of "Spiritualism," narrating his investigations, visions and spiritual communications. He discovered that he himself possessed mediumistic powers. Gradually interest became world-wide.

The Fox cottage was always respected as the home of Spiritualism. On Sept. 21, 1955 this historic building at Lily Dale burned. A great effort was made by the Lily Dale and Cassadaga firemen to save the building but only the front remained by the time the firemen succeeded in extinguishing the fire. The firemen, fearing the side wall would collapse, pulled it down, carrying with it the chimney.

Grange No. 1

The fact that the first subordinate Grange in the world, to which a charter was issued, is located in Fredonia is well known. However, many persons are not familiar with the story of the formation of that organization.

A history, even brief, would not be complete without an understanding of how the idea was conceived and of the means adopted for the foundation of the institution. Often the relation of the Civil War to this great organization is completely overlooked.

Following the Civil War, on Oct. 20, 1865, Mr. Isaac Newton, U. S. Commissioner of Agriculture, contacted Mr. Oliver H. Kelley of Minnesota concerning an appointment given him as a special agent of the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Kelley was instructed to travel through the states which had been in hostility against the United States government. His particular duty was to discover and assemble facts about the conditions and resources of the South and to make a complete report

of these.

It was during Mr. Kelley's travels that he thought of a plan for an organization that might serve to, in a measure, through a common interest and effort, heal the great rupture between the North and the South. He, an active member of the Masonic Order, believed that such an organization as he hoped might be established, should be secret and one based upon a fraternal and brotherly feeling and upon the principle for the betterment of mankind.

The original plan was to have four degrees, representing the four seasons of the year, and it was intended to accept (as members) only those directly interested in agriculture. This lodge was to have authority to grant dispensations to lecturers and organizers in the county of each state. The agreement was that the order should serve as auxiliary to the Department of Agriculture and have a central organization which is now called the National Grange.

The suggestion was that the lecturer should provide topics

for each meeting which would serve to increase the general knowledge and to develop the property of the entire country. Another objective was to present and discuss ideas which might brighten the lives of those living in rural areas and to encourage people to remain on farms thus producing the foods and items necessary to the existence of human beings, including the raising of animals. It was hoped to bring directly to the farmers the results of the work and study of the Department of Agriculture, thus enabling them to profit from these experiences.

The first formal meeting of the promoters of the Patrons of Husbandry was held in Washington, D. C. Nov. 15, 1867. It was at this meeting that the name Patrons of Husbandry was officially adopted and here it was agreed to call all branches that might be formed Granges since Grange means farm or home. This first organization was to be known as Potomac Grange No. 1 and its great object was to instruct members and organizers in the degree work thus preparing them to initiate Granges throughout the country. A motto was decided upon, "Este Perpetua" meaning "Let it be Perpetual." It was agreed to add other degrees as the Order developed.

Mr. Kelley resigned his position in the Department of Agriculture in February 1868 to devote his entire time in an effort to organize Granges. He worked alone and under great hardships including limited finances. An invitation from Mr. A. S. Moss of Fredonia, with whom he had become acquainted previously and who was at the time assistant steward in the National Grange, brought him here. With the assistance of Mr. Moss, Mr. Kelley formed here

the first regularly organized Grange in the world. This was the real foundation of the Order with members paying initiation fees.

It was in Armory Hall in the Woleben Block, nearly opposite the present Grange Hall, that Mr. Kelley met with a few of the leading citizens of Fredonia for the purpose of organizing. The officers elected at the first meeting were: U. E. Dodge, Master; Louis McKinstry, Lecturer; T. S. Hubbard, Overseer; D. Fairbanks, Steward; M. S. Woodford, Asst. Steward; W. McKinstry, Chaplain; H. Stiles, Treasurer; Wm. H. Stevens, Secretary; J. Wellman, Gatekeeper; A. S. Moss, Asst. Steward. Others who were active in organizing were; N. G. Butts, A. P. Bomd, N. L. Payne, J. J. Parker, I. Porter, G. D. Hinckley, Lewis T. Parker, A. F. Taylor, R. W. Gardner, Erastus Bartholomew and K. W. Forbes.

On Dec. 16, 1868 the ladies were admitted for the first time when 21 were initiated. Their names follow; Mrs. E. M. Wheelock, Mrs. R. W. Higgins, Mrs. H. W. Fairbanks, Mrs. C. E. Benton, Mrs. E. Stiles, Mrs. D. E. Payne, Mrs. E. Forbes, Mrs. F. McKinstry, Mrs. M. M. Wygant, and the Misses Kittie Matteson, Mary Brigham, Nellie A. Payne, Sarah Hilton, Emma Stiles, Charlotte Forbes, Achsah Tiffany, Jeanette Tiffany, Kittie Moss, Minnie Wygant, Kittie Wygant and Alice Wygant.

People engaged in pursuits other than that of agriculture became interested in Grange No. 1 here in Fredonia and many joined the organization. Had the attendance at the Grange meetings depended entirely upon the members living in the rural areas the Order might not have been able to survive.

The section was sparsely settled, the roads were poor, the

traveling slow and the farmers were very busy clearing and cultivating their lands. Therefore it was not easy for them to get to the meetings.

In 1878 four of the charter members, Ira Porter, J. J. Parker, U. E. Dodge and Louis McKinstry, determined to stimulate the interest of the farmers in this organization. These men felt also that there should be a closer relationship between the villagers and the people living in the rural areas. Toward this end a great effort was exerted. The membership and attendance increased as the importance of the Order became better known and as its value was recognized.

With the growth in membership it was realized that additional room was needed for the Grange meetings and activities. A committee was appointed to make plans and to procure more suitable quarters. The men serving in this group were E. L. Colvin, S. J. Lowell and L. E. Cowden. After serious consideration they purchased the abandoned church property on the corner of Day and Free (now Lambert Ave.) Streets. However, because of litigation of the heirs of the original owners the property had to be restored to the heirs. The money was returned and the lot on Main Street where the Grange building stands was secured.

The Grange paid \$2,000 for this lot and plans were made to erect a building. Through a personal canvass of the Fredonia members and by money raised through entertainments and sales the committee was assured of \$5,400 with which to start the building. With careful planning and by letting the contract in parts, the total cost of the lot and building came to somewhat over \$13,000. In order to secure the lacking amount of needed money the trustees

were authorized to place a non-interest bearing mortgage of \$6,500 on the property as security for an issue of certificates of indebtedness having a face value ranging from \$50 to \$500 and bearing 5 per cent interest. These certificates were oversubscribed by the members of the organization.

Among gifts at the time of the dedication of the building were the furnishings of the parlor which were given by Mrs. R. W. Wright in memory of her father, U. E. Dodge, the first Master of the Grange. John Leo Sullivan, a former member of the Assembly, donated 100 bound volumes of agricultural books for the convenience of the members.

The Fredonia Grange has furnished two State Masters and one National Master—George D. Hinckley, the first State Master in 1873 and Sherman J. Lowell, 1915-1919. In 1919 Mr. Lowell became the National Master.

On the front of this brick building which is located at 54-56 West Main Street, Fredonia, are the words; "Fredonia Grange No. 1—Organized Apr. 16, 1868."

Oct. 17, 1936 a large bronze tablet, which is on the rear wall back of the stage and which was presented by the National Grange, was unveiled by Past National Master Sherman J. Lowell, representing the older members of the Grange, and Miss Edithe Hinckley, then the youngest member and a great-granddaughter of George D. Hinckley, a charter member who became master before the end of the first year.

The masters of Fredonia Grange No. 1 from the date of organization to 1915 were U. E. Dodge, G. D. Hinckley, C. F. Matteson, Ira Porter, 1868-74; H. A. Morrison 1887; Rufus Hayward, 1888-89; A. F. Newton, 1890-91; L. C. Baldwin, 1892; J. M. Pettit, 1893; E. K. Hough,

1894; Mrs. Mary Sackett, 1895-96; E. L. Colvin, 1897, 1903; Sherman J. Lowell, 1904-05; C. E. Edmunds, 1906; C. S. Aldrich, 1907-09; Richard Hall, 1910-12; Miss Belle Wilson, 1913-14.

The Grange has accomplished a great deal in the effort to make life more comfortable and more secure for all. It exerted great influence in securing rural free delivery of mail and of parcel post and its influence has been felt in the regulation of public utilities, the establish-

ment of experiment stations, in conservation and forestry, farm credit and better highways. The members have been able to co-operate in purchasing farm supplies. One of the most important accomplishments was the establishment of various kinds of insurance. The members are always on the alert for state and national legislation that will tend to benefit all people. The interest and efforts of the members are ever evident in all social, educational and economic fields.

Captain Hiram Chapman

There were a number of men from the Sheridan area who, in the early days, served as captains of boats on the Great Lakes. One of these captains was Hiram Chapman who was a man with ambition for his fellow men and who also was sympathetic to the escaped slaves from the South. In addition to the memory of his kind deeds he left a beautiful home and a still more enduring memorial in the form of a very unusual and interesting cemetery marker.

Hiram Chapman, born in Sheridan on April 9, 1810, was one of many Chapman children. As the oldest son, he sought work while very young and his choice at that time was the life and work of a sailor. Eventually he became a captain. For a number of years his boat plied between Dunkirk and Canada. On his trips across Lake Erie he often took slaves who had escaped from the South and whom he safely landed on the Canadian shore. Many of these slaves had been protected at the Underground Station of Eber Pettit in Versailles and were conducted by Mr. Pettit, his son-in-law Darwin Barker, or others of his associates, to Dun-

kirk where they were placed on the boat of Captain Chapman. Sometimes they were secreted at the home and station of Dr. James Pettit in Cordova until such time as they could be transported safely to the boat in Dunkirk.

It has been told by a member of the Chapman family that the purse of money which was always tossed aboard the boat by Mr. Pettit to pay for the passage of the slaves was divided among the escaped persons by Mr. Chapman. And thus Captain Hiram Chapman will be remembered for his sincere helpfulness with the great Underground movement in New York State.

Captain Chapman finally deserted his life on the water to follow the pursuit of horticulture and agriculture and settled in Western New York at Versailles. It was here that he undertook an experiment in the production of honey. When he was on a visit in Bermuda his attention was attracted to bees swarming about an odd plant resembling our thistle. The honey was a delicious product.

Mr. Chapman was so enthusiastic over it that he brought back to his native land some of the plants with the idea of

cultivating them here. He expected to devote acres of land to the raising of this plant and to have his neighbors share in the industry and thus all of them produce this particular honey. For some reason, undoubtedly the climatic conditions, the project didn't prove successful in this area.

Captain Chapman's wife was Maria Parker, the eldest daughter of nine children of Mr. and Mrs. David Day Parker who came from West Rupert, Vt., in 1800 by wagon team. They purchased from the Holland Land Co. a tract of land three miles west of Versailles, which extended to the creek. A saw mill was soon built and the logs were used to construct a bridge and later a road was cut through the pine trees and still later a plank road was built from the point three miles west through the settlement to the creek.

David Parker gave some of his land to his daughter and a short distance from the village Captain Chapman built a log cabin in which to keep their relics. The beautiful white frame house erected by him for a home has always been the outstanding sight of the community. The tall pine trees were grown from seedlings which Mrs. Maria Chapman brought on a return trip from Vermont.

Even well built houses may eventually disappear but the monument which Captain Chapman planned and which stands in a shady corner of a small graveyard on Genesee Road, Versailles, in the Cattaraugus Reservation, will endure forever. It was while on a visit to New Orleans that the Captain

attended the New Orleans Exposition and there saw the exhibit of monumental stones created by F. O. Cross of Chicago. His designs were unusual in that they depicted life rather than death.

Mr. Chapman was greatly impressed with this work and engaged Mr. Cross to design an original monument to mark the graves of his wife and himself. Desiring to have the markers represent their life interests he ordered a stone birch tree with an anchor at the base of it to portray his vocation. Mrs. Chapman wished also to have a replica of the original log cabin in which they started house keeping.

The sand stone for this work was purchased at the cost of \$2,500. Sand stone was chosen because as it is exposed to the weather it hardens. As the work progressed Captain Chapman instructed the stone cutter to break the stone birch tree and use the upper half for a foot stone. Then he wished another piece of stone tree split in half, one half to be used to cover each grave, and this they do today.

Trailing over the surface of the stone tree is an ivy, and ferns decorate the base. Hanging down on the monument is displayed the stalk of the Chapman bee plant with the words "Chapman Bee Plant." The date of the erection of the marker appears on the anchor as "June 27, 1885."

The inscription on the standing monument, a symbolism of the "Broken Life" is "Hiram Chapman, born April 9, 1810, died April 8, 1890. Maria H. Chapman, born Nov. 22, 1815, died Dec. 18, 1886.

Monuments in Forest Hill

One of the most beautiful cemeteries in Western New York is Forest Hill in Fredonia.

Here on this hill which gently slopes from the village lie hundreds of persons who played im-

portant roles in the history of our community. The attention of individuals who are concerned with local history is attracted to the markers of those citizens. Then, too, many of the monuments are of interest to some only because of their design and structure.

As one walks or drives through the central road, having entered the cemetery by the main gate, he soon notices on the right the Cushing monument. The inscription appearing on it is "In memory of the mother of four brave sons, Mary B. Cushing, born Salem, Mass., died in St. Joseph, Mo., March 1891." The four sons are commemorated on the four sides of the stone, the inscription giving a record of Civil War service of each.

A short distance beyond the Cushing memorial is a towering marker placed in the center of a circular plot. The shaft is one of the highest in this section of the cemetery. This is the Rood marker where the members of that family and some of their relatives are interred.

Quite near the Rood lot is another outstanding marker. Although not as tall as that of the Rood family one is attracted to it because of its artistic design. On the top of this Smith memorial is a draped vase with a garland of flowers. The letters forming the names of the deceased are of a rustic nature resembling branches of a tree. Here rest Sheldon Smith and his family.

In the same vicinity another stately marker recalls the Erastus H. Clark family. Mr. Clark was born in 1790 and his wife, Betsy, in 1793.

A very unusual and interesting stone near the road is that with the names and dates "A. P. Phillips 1827-1901 and Fedelia Woods 1823-1900." This is a tree similar to that of Capt. Chap-

man's memorial in Versailles. At the base of it are ferns and hanging from a broken branch of the tree is a scroll and on this scroll are listed the children. The individual markers at each grave resemble a short piece of wood with fern leaves at the base. Next to this is the grave and marker of Phillip Phillips, "Singing Pilgrim," 1834-1895, and his wife Olive M. Phillips. On the stone, surrounded by a wreath, is a musical emblem with a cross on each side of it. Resting next to his parents is James C. Phillips, the eldest and talented son, born Nov. 4, 1861 and died Feb. 19, 1884. On the stone appears, "Tell everybody I die a Christian." A stone about two feet high outlines the grave.

The family of J. Condit Smith, the contractor, has one of the tallest monuments on the left of the main drive. It is exquisite in design. The lofty four-sided Brooks monument is simple in design but distinctive because of its height and material. On the stone are the names of Horatio C. Brooks, founder of Brooks Locomotive Works, born 1828, and his wife, Julia A. born 1830. The nearby Hequembourg monument is also an artistic specimen.

On the opposite side of the road is a large circular area outlined by an unusual circle of stone. On the steps leading up to the burial plot is the name Bradley and within the circle is but one marker and that contains the names of Philip Bradley and his wife, Clara Bristol Bradley, and the birth date of each, 1864.

A slightly natural boulder marks the resting place of one of the area's Civil War heroes, Enoch A. Curtis. A bronze plate bears the information, "Capt. Co. D. 112 N.Y.V. Brevetted Major for gallantry at the Battle of Cold Harbor." Here also

rests his wife, Jennie Norton Curtis.

Almost opposite this impressive boulder is a triangular plot upon which the remains of the seven persons who lost their lives in the tragic Normal School fire of Dec. 14, 1900 were interred together. Their names appear on a large but plain stone.

One of the most majestic memorials is the shaft on the right which recalls the Howard family, well known especially because of their interest in various enterprises including that of jewelers, owners of the Howard (Independent) Watch Co. and of the Pettit Eye Salve Co.

A most unusual marker is four Greek pillars representing the Goodell-Albers families. This stands in the large circle near the rear of the cemetery.

Off the main road to the right one notices the graves of other

well known Fredonia residents: Charles L. Webster, "Publisher of Grant's Memoirs 1885, Knighted by Leo XIII 1887"; O. W. Johnson, prominent as an attorney and writer; Dr. M. S. Moore who served with the South during the Civil War and later came to Fredonia. It is said that he is the only Confederate soldier buried in our cemetery. Another noticeable marker has the inscription, "Lyman C. Howe, teacher of truth, lover of humanity, erected by his fellow Spiritualists."

These are but a few of the impressive memorials to be seen in Forest Hill Cemetery. The various styles and tastes displayed are educational to students of art and even to a novice they present an interesting study. The stories, some of them untold, discovered from the inscriptions and dates are fascinating and of decided value to historians.

Our Hero

The following poem dedicated to the memory of William Barker Cushing and his heroic deed in destroying the Albemarle is from the scrap book of the late Mrs. Ruth B. Seaver of Sinclairville. Mrs. Seaver was well known for her poetry and her historical articles.

I know a tale of the Roanoke
A Chautauqua boy with "heart
of oak",
Year, eighteen hundred and
sixty-four,
Scene, North Caroline's eastern
shore,
October, darkness and silence
save
Rustle of leaf and ripple of
wave,
And, dim on the river, like a
snarl
Of the wasp of night, the Albe-
marle.

The Albemarle, who had faced
a fleet
Of northern gunbeats, no known
defeat,
Protected now by her great log
raft
At thought of danger had proud-
ly laughed.
Never was there a craft afloat
Could force its way to this
monarch boat.
With sharp-eyed pickets far and
near
What cause had the Albemarle
to fear?
But, as still as phantom boats
adrift
Two shadowy forms steal sure
and swift
Against the tide, 'neath the
black mouthed guns
Where the Roanoke to the ocean
runs.
Ho, Sentinels, have you lost in
sleep

All thought of the sacred watch
 you keep?
 Is there no whisper that bids
 you wake,
 No call to arms for your good
 ship's sake?
 Nearer and nearer, unnoticed
 yet,
 All faint sounds lost in the
 water's fret,
 Nearer and nearer the strange
 shapes crawl,
 The mantle of darkness covering
 all.
 They part, a cutter well-armed,
 has drawn
 The fire of sentries, a launch
 has gone
 Like shaft from bow, or like
 beast run mad,
 Straight at the hulk of the
 ironclad.
 Now awake the Albemarle in ire
 And roars her anger with
 tongues of fire.
 Like speech replies, and a slim
 youth springs
 O'er the wavering raft and coolly
 swings
 A fatal shell 'neath the great
 ship's side.

What of the valorous one who
 planned
 And wrought the work with
 fearless hand?
 Did his life end with this brave
 deed done,
 The Albemarle prove his
 Acheron?
 The raft is sinking, the launch
 no more,
 The southern pickets still line
 the shore.
 But down the stream, through
 thicket and fen
 He has pressed to the union
 lines again.
 But for this victory who shall
 say
 If home or country were ours
 to-day
 Save one, not another life was
 spared
 Of the boys in blue who this
 peril shared.
 Often again through the weary
 days
 Of the waning war he won the
 praise
 Of a grateful country, and proud
 Fame
 High on her record wrote
 Cushing's name.

The Abel Family

In our Pioneer Cemetery on
 East Main Street, Fredonia, is
 buried Capt. Thomas Abell, a
 Revolutionary soldier, who died
 Oct. 10. 1814.

The marker at his grave is
 elaborate with decorative pillars
 on each side of the stone.
 The scene depicted on the monument
 is that of the final resurrection:
 "Ye Dead Arise! Come
 to Judgment!" This representation
 is encircled by a wreath.
 The monument is an exact duplicate
 of the one designed by
 Martin Damon, a self trained
 artist, who came here in 1808.
 The original stone began to deteriorate
 to such an extent that
 it was considered necessary to
 replace it with a reproduction

which would be permanent.

Martin Damon and his brother
 quarried stone on Damon Hill
 above the gulf on Chautauqua
 Road for his work. It is believed
 that the material for the original
 marker came from either
 Damon Hill or Laona.

It was Martin Damon's brother,
 Joseph M. Damon, who, in a
 rage, killed his wife and was the
 first man to be hanged in
 Chautauqua County. James Mullett
 of Fredonia defended the murderer
 and gained great prominence
 because of his forceful plea in
 which he used the original defense
 argument of temporary insanity.

Capt. Thomas Abell was born
 in Norwich, Conn., Oct. 9, 1749

and came here from Vermont in 1813 to make his home with his son, Moseley, but he lived only until Oct. 10, 1814. His wife was Eunice Griswold. Capt. Abell's service in the Revolutionary War was in the battles of Bennington, Ticonderoga and Crown Point.

It was the sons of Capt. Abell, Thomas G. and Moseley W., who added the second "l" to their name after moving to New York State from Vermont, hence the father's name on the marker appears with two "l's".

The sons of Capt. Abell were closely associated with the progress of our early community. Moseley Wells Abell was born in Bennington, Vt., Feb. 24, 1781 and was married to Ruth Baldwin at Dorset, Vt., on July 6, 1806. For a number of years he resided in Crown Point and there engaged in mercantile business. In 1811 he removed to Buffalo, N. Y. where he operated a hotel on the corner of Main and Seneca Streets.

In December 1812 when the British advanced on the town he gathered his family in a sleigh and started west along the lake shore. He first located in Mayville but in the Spring of the following year he moved to Canadaway or Fredonia and purchased the land where the Russo building now stands, to Canadaway Creek, and back to Risley Street. He built a hotel, facing the common, which he and his brother operated. It was later known as the Johnson House and still later the Taylor House. The Abell men became proprietors with Bela Coe of Buffalo and Col. Nathaniel Bird of Westfield of the first line of stages running from Buffalo to Erie, Pa. These stages were run for many years.

In 1828 Moseley Abell removed to Dunkirk. He was one of the original members of the Dunkirk Baptist Church and was

for many years a deacon. He was postmaster in Dunkirk for some time. From 1849 to 1851 he served as County Superintendent of the Poor. We find that he was treasurer of the Chautauqua County Bible Society in 1835. His wife, Mrs. Ruth Abell, died in 1851 and he died in September 1858 in his 73th year. They had 11 children, two of whom died in infancy. The others were: Minerva who married Walter Smith, Lucina, Mary Ann, Thomas B., Albert H., George M., Frances L., Casper K. and Clara K.

Thomas G. Abell was born in Bennington, Vt., in 1791 and was married to Rhoda Hawks of the same place. He was interested in seeing progress in the town and was engaged in several fields of merchandising, also milling, and he conducted an iron foundry. He is said to have built the first stage coach in the county. Thomas Abell became colonel of a regiment of infantry in our county. He was greatly interested in establishing the Academy here and is known as one of the founders. Five children were born to Col. and Mrs. Thomas Abell: Eunice Eliza, Harriet Maria, Catherine Jennett who married David Forbes of Fredonia, Apphia Louisa and Rhoda Louisa.

Thomas G. Abell built the house which is now the Larson Funeral Chapel. He was the grandfather of the late Mrs. William Barker Cushing. In 1852 Col. Abell moved to Buffalo and there he died in 1857.

An interesting story was told by elderly inhabitants of the village. There was contention between the residents on the west side and the east side of the Canadaway Creek concerning the building of a Presbyterian church or house of worship. No agreement seemed to be forthcoming. Col. Thomas Abell and his brother Moseley were

anxious to build on the east side. Some persons on that side displayed but little interest as to the location of the church. However some of these people were anxious for an academy on the east side.

Col. Abell, making the most of

this opportunity, started a subscription with a view to the erection of a two story building, the lower part to be used for the Academy, the upper part for the Presbyterian Church. The necessary funds were raised quickly and the building erected on the east side as the Abells desired.

Ripley

Today we may not think of Ripley as ever having been associated with the Town of Pomfret but as we recall the formation of towns and counties from the Holland Purchase it reminds us that there was an association.

Portland, taken from the Town of Chautauqua, was erected on April 9, 1813 and it included the present Towns of Portland, Westfield, and Ripley. Portland did not remain in its first boundaries. Due to the influx of migration there was soon a demand for better accommodations for the transaction of business and attendance for elections. Accordingly during the year 1815 a division was agitated which resulted in the passage of an act by the Legislature March 1, 1816 setting up the Town of Ripley which comprised the present town of that name and all of the present Town of Westfield west of Chautauqua Creek.

The Towns of Portland and Ripley remained intact for several years and in fact there was no exertion for another division until 1828. The town meeting that year had been very spirited and resulted in the election of a Portland man as supervisor in opposition to a prominent citizen of Westfield. Westfield was then erected in March 1829 and included some of the Town of Ripley. The poor, the poor money and other funds were divided

and each town thereafter looked after her own problems. Amos Atwater became the first supervisor of Ripley.

The earnest settler within the limits of the present Town of Ripley was Alexander Cochran, a native of northern Ireland who came there in 1804 and settled on a farm later occupied by his son, John. He was from the class called "Protestant Irish" or "Scotch Irish." It is said that he was the first man in the county to take a deed for his land. Mr. Cochran occupied the original farm until his death and several of his 13 children continued to reside in and near Ripley for some time.

William Alexander, who came from Pennsylvania, settled in 1806 on the James McMahan tract in the east part of Ripley purchasing around 500 acres of land. He was one of the early associate judges of the county. It is stated that the first orchard in Ripley was planted by him.

Another early and permanent citizen was Burban Brockway, a native of Lyme, Conn., who, the youngest of 10 children, was born in 1767. His elder brothers and his father served in the Revolutionary War. After having lived a life on the sea for a number of years he engaged in the pursuit of agriculture and settled in Ontario county, where he began clearing the forest. In 1814 he removed to Ripley (then Portland) about a mile east of

Quincy where he continued to live until his death in 1861. When St. Pauls Episcopal Church was organized at Mayville he became its senior warden and later was warden of St. Peter's Church in Westfield. He served as postmaster at Ripley and also held the office of magistrate. One of his nine children was Eliza Ann who married Dr. Orris Crosby of Fredonia.

Perry Ellsworth in 1804 or 1805 came from Otsego County and located a mile west of Quincy where he operated a tavern. He was one of the earliest justices.

In 1811 Horace Hale, coming by foot from Schoharie County, joined the first settlers.

Most of these first settlers located on land of the McMahan tract. Among other names associated with the early history of Quincy or Ripley are Nathan Wisner, Samuel Harrison, Asa Spear, Josiah Farnsworth, Samuel Truesdale, William McBride, John Ackers, William Crossgrove and Stephen Prendergast.

A saw mill supposed to have been the first in Ripley was built by Richard Baker and Robert Dickson in 1817 on the

Twenty Mile Creek. The first tavern is said to have been at the State Line and was operated by Samuel Truesdale. The first store in the vicinity was opened by George Bennett of Buffalo.

The original postoffice in Ripley was established about 1815 in the house of the pastmaster, Robert Dickson. The year 1817 brought several advances to the town. That year the first frame school house was built and stood on the corner near Henry Shaver's residence. Also the first wagon track was made over the hill by Israel Palmer from Vermont.

A story is told of Josiah Farnsworth, Asa Spear and Perry Ellsworth. The two latter were appointed justices of the peace while the former was elected supervisor. They were all obliged to take oath of office at Batavia. Leather was at a premium those days and it was discovered that there was but one pair of boots in condition to be worn away from home. Those belonged to Mr. Ellsworth who took his trip and returned and then loaned the boots to Mr. Farnsworth and in turn to Mr. Spear.

Two Letters

The following letters, the originals of which are possessed by the writer, give one an insight into the conditions and problems of the early settlers in the town of Pomfret in 1812 and in 1826:

* * *

Pomphret August the 22, 1812
Honored brother and sisters i
now take this opportunity of
writing to you of our health
which is good at present and i
hope that theese few lines will
find you and yours enjoying the
same blefsing of God i want to
inform about the situation that
we are in here we ant but three

miles from the lake where the
british can land almost any
where and we cant git no troops
to defend us about one hundred
and fifty miles from here the
british have come and swept
all and it is said that they are
a making ready and we expect
that they will land amongst us
every moment they are a mov-
ing away as fast as they can
git away there is five families
agoing away today and leave
all their grain but we must
stay for we hant got any thing
to git away with i wish that i
could see you all but i dont
know as i ever shall we are here

in the wilderneys and we expect that we shall be a prey for the savages brother we cant exprefs our feelings that we have for our children for we have eight so now i must close these few lines i send my compliments to all my sisters and friends and i wish that when you read theese few lines you will remember me

Benjamin Roberts Molly
 Roberts Hiel Risley

* * *

Fredonia June 28th 1826
 Dear Parrents

I once more set down to write to you, we are all well hoping this will find you all the same, it has been very dry weather here for three months past, for one week their has been Double the rain fall than in 4 months before it. hay will be verry scarce wheat vry and corn will be tolerable good Wheat at present is worth \$.50 cts. pr bushel Corn 25 cts usy 37½ stock verry low good five year old Cattle \$35 a yoke, good Caves \$10 a piece I now will procede to write you my situation Is, I am poor 2s, I am Rich, I live 7 miles from fredonia in the town of portlen I have purchased 50 acres of land, sold the other farm, I pay \$7.00 per acre for this land four years to pay it in I proofed here the first Day of Church last this land lies on the main road from Buffalo to Erie first Rate of land better if possible than your millow land on the point as you call it, I have a verry fine house that I live in I will give you a discription of it is 30 feet long 14 feet wide build of logs High Enough to stand up in, a few stones at one end to make a fire. I now will tell you how mutch land I have cleared this sumer I let out a Job of 20 acres to be cleared and fenced by the 15 Day of June which was Done according to agreement and I have planted it all to corn if it should do well

likely I should raise six or seven hundred bushels, (it looks verry well now) I intend when the corn comes of to put it all into wheat. I paid \$10 pr acre for clearing this Lot, in property which takes most of my loose property, I have one horse left one cow one calf four Hoags one old Sow 8 pigs 15 sheep about \$125 due me the first of January next I have paid the first payment for my land, first of January next I have got to make another I have my lumber all ready for building me house but shall not build until I can see my way clear . . . you no that I am a great ways from you Father Mother Brothers and Sisters but I have some friends here but those not connected to me are my best friends there is a merchant in Fredonia by the name of Walter Smith From Wethersfield which I do a good deal of business for, In the corse of a year past fall I went to the Ohio and brought 100 hoags for him this summer I have Done a good Deal of business for him in Buffalo the first of August I Expect to start to go to the Ohio about 300 miles after hoags for him again I calculate to Drive 500 this Drove these hoags are put in to a Still and fatted and then killed and barreled up and sold I think I am doing better than I ever was . . . I have but a little more to say that is I wish you would come out and see me it will cost you but a little you can come all the way by water it will cost you 2 cts per mile on the Canall and you can make your calculation what it will cost you to go to New York and from there to Albany the hole Expense cannot cost you over \$10 from Connecticut here . . . I will let you have anything that I have got or can get to satisfy you for what you have Done for me . . .

Yours with Respect
 Loren Risley
 Capt. Hiel Risley

Aaron O. Putnam

The name Putnam is familiar throughout Chautauqua County, there having been several early families by that name. Some of these pioneer citizens are still represented in this area by their descendants.

Aaron Osgood Putnam was a prominent man of Fredonia. His father, Aaron L. Putnam, a New Englander, moved to Fredonia in 1835. He was accompanied by his wife, the former Dolly Osgood, and their daughter Jane. By trade Mr. Aaron L. Putnam was a farmer and a skilled carpenter of considerable experience.

It was to these parents that Aaron Osgood Putnam was born May 2, 1836. He was in the true sense of the word a Fredonian since he spent his entire life here. His education was completed at the Fredonia Academy.

An apparent aptitude for business led him to select the mercantile field as his life work. After preparing himself for this vocation by means of a business course at the Academy and some time spent as a mercantile clerk he decided to enter business here in Fredonia.

In 1860 with two of his cousins, Nathan A. and John B. Putnam and under the firm name of the J. B. Putnam and Co. he began the career in which he was very successful. Although the firm was dissolved six years later he determined to continue in that line of work.

The following year Aaron O. Putnam formed a partnership with his younger brother, Albert Putnam. They erected a brick building for their dry goods store and their enterprise proved very profitable, in fact it was considered one of the most successful businesses in Western New York. Mr. Aaron Putnam retired in 1882 and it was then

that the store was closed.

Mr. Putnam, in 1881, became a director and vice-president of the Fredonia National Bank, continuing in those capacities until his selection to president took place in January 1896. As the chief official of the bank he followed Chauncey Abbey who had been the successor of S. M. Clement.

The marriage of Mary Thomas McDaniels of Rutland, Vt., to Aaron Putnam took place in 1865. Mr. Putnam built the spacious house on Temple Street which, through the consideration of Mr. and Mrs. Putnam by making the purchase of the home possible, became our W.C.A. Home for Aged Women. Mr. Putnam then built the home on East Main Street next to the Barker Library where it was hoped he, his wife and adopted daughter, Charlotte Putnam Landers, might spend many happy years. However his life came to a close in February 1896 in the new home, he having spent but a short time there and having served as president of the bank a brief period.

Mr. Putnam's interest in the progress of the community in which he had been reared was ever evident. His judgment was sought by friends and neighbors and as a public spirited citizen he was always ready to assist in any possible way. He was generous in giving advice as well as helping financially. Although Mr. Putnam was not a great student of books he understood human nature. He possessed many friends and was respected and beloved by them and his associates.

Mr. Putnam was not a communicant of any church but for 20 years he attended and generously supported Trinity Episcopal Church of which his wife

was a devoted member and an ardent worker. His funeral service was conducted by the Rev. Dr. J. J. Landers, rector of Trinity Church.

His willing support of deserving undertakings is shown by the appearance of his name among the contributors for the relief of the families of the volunteer soldiers in 1861. It was on April 15 that President Lin-

coln issued the proclamation calling for 75,000 men and on the evening of April 20 a public meeting was called in Fredonia for the purpose of adopting patriotic resolutions and appointing a finance committee to take charge of the funds to be raised that evening. In the list of names and contributions are both Aaron L. Putnam and Aaron O. Putnam.

Lily Dale

Many persons have asked how the Spiritualistic Camp Grounds at Lily Dale came into being.

It is true that thousands of visitors have been attracted to the Cassadaga Lakes area over a period of years, especially because of their interest in Spiritualism, some with the aim of studying the religion and some in hopes that there at Lily Dale they might find comfort in their grief from the loss of dear ones.

The society of Freethinkers or Spiritualists was formed in Laona, during the 1850's. Once a year members of families we recognize as early settlers of Laona, who were interested in this movement, journeyed to the Cassadaga Lakes and there in Alden's Grove on the east bank of the middle lake held a picnic.

Willard Alden erected on his land a small building which became known as the "Willow Lake Hall." His interest in Spiritualism rapidly increased and it was on June 15, 1873 that Mr. Alden invited all Spiritualists to assemble at "Willow Dale Grove" to witness the dedication of the land which he was donating to the use of this great movement. The speech was given by Lyman C. Howe of Fredonia. These meetings were continued by Mr. Alden until his death in 1877. By that time the sessions had lengthened from

one day to three days.

As attention to Spiritualism gradually increased and its enthusiasm spread into many states, the "Cassadaga Lake Free Association" was formed and incorporated under the New York State law. About 20 acres of land bordering on the east shore of the Upper Lake was then purchased from the Fisher Brothers of Cassadaga. This was laid out in streets and it was established that these lots would be leased or rented, not sold. It was in August 1879 that this transaction was completed.

Then the undertaking of clearing the land, felling the trees, sawing them into boards and making the land ready for the erection of buildings was begun. The women and children joined in this labor by gathering brush and performing other minor tasks.

In the newspaper, the "Chautauqua Farmer" of the date August 10, 1881 there appeared an account of the opening of the Camp Meeting.

"Last Sunday was an unpropitious day for the opening of the Peoples' Camp Meeting at Cassadaga Lake, but the torrent of rain that poured down on the Camp Saturday night and early Sunday morning did not seem to dampen the prospects for a well attended meeting or check the enthusiasm of those on whose heads the rain fell so lavishly.

The excursion train from Dunkirk brought a full complement of passengers as did also the regular north-bound train. During the past week the camp ground has been placed in connection with the outside world by telegraph and a new and comfortable station is being built (this is now gone). An excursion train leaves Dunkirk every Sunday morning."

Great effort was exerted to make the grounds attractive and comfortable for the hundreds of visitors. There were many problems and struggles in getting the Assembly well established and organized. By 1890 the auditorium had been erected and a number of houses built and the future looked bright. One of the most devoted members and workers was Mrs. Marion Skidmore who was probably largely responsible for the early success of the enterprise. As buildings came into being a library was not overlooked.

The carefully planned programs with prominent speakers attracted persons from every state and the special excursion trains with many coaches brought to Lily Dale hundreds of persons. People within driving distance arrived by horse and carriage.

At an informal meeting in 1879 in a cottage which had been erected by Dr. Carter, opposite the present entrance to the grounds, persons met who favored the organization of a camp meeting independent of the Aldens. The board was organized with the following officers and trustees: Albert S. Cobb of Dunkirk, president; O. G. Chase of Jamestown, vice-president; Thomas J. Skinner, treasurer; Joe W. Rood, Fredonia, secretary; Linus Sage, Fredonia; M. R. Rouse, Titusville, Pa.; David Ramsdell, Laona. A subscription of stock was taken Aug. 23, 1879.

The Leolyn Inn, filled with lore of yesterday, stands near

the Assembly Gate. It was once the Alden House and is perhaps the birth place of Lily Dale Assembly for it was the proprietor, Willard Aldren, who in the 70's invited all Spiritualists to hold a camp meeting in his grove. For many years, in the parlor hung pictures painted through the mediumship of the "Bangs Sisters" and a tapestry woven by Molly Fancher.

The Leolyn was owned for some time by Mrs. A. L. Pettengill of Cleveland. At that location was a well of excellent water supposed to be of medicinal value and this was free to the guests. The Leolyn was named by a Hindu who visited there, "The Palace of Peace".

The hotel opened Aug. 7, 1880 with the first registered arrivals being W. D. Bugbee, Titusville, Pa.; A. Kendall, Erie, Pa.; O. P. Kellogg, West Trumbull, O., and W. J. Colville of England.

It was Mrs. Pettengill who built the beautiful home of elaborate design referred to as a villa, just inside the grounds. She also was responsible for Melrose Park, the carefully landscaped area between the entrance and the auditorium.

In 1888 the importance of having an established postoffice at Lily Dale was recognized and so on June 27 a postmaster was appointed. He was Corydon B. Turner. The name of the office was Lilly Dale and it was not until 1927 that the name was officially changed to Lily Dale. The name had been originally chosen by the Alden family because of the abundance of water lilies in the Cassadaga Lakes.

Serving in charge of the postoffice in those early days, following Mr. Turner, were Mary R. Pond, Herbert S. Bennett, Edward L. Griswold, Frank A. Smith and Elizabeth Witheral.

Noted speakers were invited

to appear on the rostrum of the auditorium at the Assembly meetings. The speakers were not limited to those interested in Spiritualism, there also appeared political leaders, suffragettes and orators.

Among the guest speakers in the early days were the famous Susan B. Anthony, Harriet Beecher Stowe, the Rev. Anna Shaw, Carrie Chapman Catt, Robert Ingersoll and Elbert Hubbard.

One of the early policies of the Cassadaga Lake Free Association was to attract people by charging low rentals and a low entrance fee to the Grounds. Thus the privilege of attending the meetings was not limited to persons of means.

During the 90's the Assembly was greatly enlarged by the purchase of more land. The length of the season was extended and many improvements were made. Lectures on Spiritualism were given every afternoon and evening. These were often followed by demonstrations of mediumistic power. Seances and private readings were held. The musical programs were always excellent.

A number of attractions were offered in addition to the lectures and meetings. Afternoon band concerts were popular, the

musicians occupying the band stand near the shore of the upper lake and near the old Grand Hotel now known as the Maplewood Hotel. Dances were held Wednesday and Saturday evenings in the auditorium, the first music being supplied by Damon's Orchestra of Dunkirk.

One early unique attraction was a raft of logs covered with smooth plank flooring on which the young people danced while a small steamer pushed it about on the calm waters of the Cassadaga Lakes.

The Association had its own newspaper for years. The circulation was large and the paper was sent into many states.

Among the names of persons affiliated with this organization are some which are familiar. Linus and Lydia Sage removed from Laona to Lily Dale and it is said that he built the first house there. Lyman G. Howe came to Chautauqua county from Otsego county in 1858 and resided in Fredonia. Carrie E. S. Twing of Westfield took an active part in the Assembly.

The Assembly continues to be active although not to the extent of its earlier years. There are now many permanent home owners in addition to the seasonal residents located there.

The Fredonia Fire Department

One of the most valuable organizations in our town and village is the Fredonia Fire Department. It has undergone many changes since its early formation but has always proved itself most efficient through the many years of its existence.

It was in 1869, very near the time of the erection of Grange No. 1, that the first Fredonia Fire Department was organized. There were at least two companies at that time, Fredonia No. 1

and Cataract Fire Company No. 2 which later became the Fenner Hose Company, named for Dr. M.M. Fenner. This Fenner Company came into being Sept. 16, 1873 and it was in 1885 that the Barker Hose Company was incorporated.

After serving faithfully until 1890 these volunteer firemen disbanded.

A paid fire department was then organized. There were about 20 men belonging to this

group and they were paid on a yearly basis each one receiving about \$20 per year. The leader of this newly organized company was Frank Hayward.

There were two livery stables in Fredonia. At the sound of the fire alarm each owner hurried to get a horse harnessed and in readiness to draw the fire cart. One dollar was paid to the owner of the horse which was first on the scene and hence the one used. Many times the firemen started drawing the cart by hand until overtaken by the horse and driver.

Late in 1900, after the tragic Normal School fire, the village board was petitioned to reorganize the volunteer fire department. In the spring of the following year the Fredonia Volunteer Fire Department was instituted with three companies; the Fenner Hose Company, the Barker Hose Company and the Lambert Hook and Ladder Company (the latter being named in honor of Judge Lambert of Fredonia).

The first chief of the new organization was John Zahm who served from the formation of the department to 1907. Elected as secretary was Percy Bartrum who had filled that office with the very first fire department of 1869.

An outstanding record of service as secretary is noted in the term filled by Blair F. Simons who was elected to that office in 1904 when Mr. Bartrum resigned. Mr. Simons acted for 33 years as department secretary.

Following the leadership of John Zahm was Elton LeBaron who served until 1909 and he was followed by Walter Dunkley.

If we recall the conditions of the streets and roads in those days and the poor equipment and limited facilities we can realize in a measure the sacrifices made by these volunteers

and the hardships endured by them.

1910 was an outstanding year for Fredonia since the combined celebration of the Fredonia Centennial and the Southwestern Volunteer Firemen's Association was held July 24-30. John Zahm was at this time again elected chief and he served in this capacity until May 1913 when Louis Salhoff became the chief.

About this time the attention of the public in Fredonia and Pomfret was called to fire prevention and this was particularly stressed in 1914 by the appointment by the chief of fire wardens whose responsibility it was to assist in making inspections.

From this time on the fire equipment was increased. It was in March 1915 that the citizens voted to purchase a motor-driven fire truck at a cost of \$5,000. In December of that year it was here ready for us.

George Blood became the chief in May 1917 and it was during his term as head of the fire department that a request to the village board was made for a pumper and a motor-driven ladder truck. During the leadership of Manley Johnson a Hook and Ladder truck and a Model T Ford pumper were acquired by the department. The need of these had been emphasized by the disastrous Columbia Hotel fire.

In reviewing the history of our Fredonia Fire Department one is greatly impressed by the effort of the members of the Fire Department and the consideration of the Village Board to continually improve the equipment. They have constantly been alert to recognize improved fighting equipment as it became available. It is impossible to mention all of the changes as the years passed, but there were many of great importance.

The Model T Ford pumper

which cost \$3,000 was ready for use on May 23, 1919. Shortly afterward the motor-driven ladder truck, the latest model, was here. In those days West Hill was the supreme test for all vehicles and the new truck was no exception. It was able to clock 15 miles per hour up the hill with an additional load of 12 men.

In 1922 the Hose and Chemical truck was replaced by a modern 750 gallon American La France pumper purchased by the village at a cost of \$12,500. Fred Sahle at this time became chief and the assistants were F. E. Schifferli and Elton Morrison. Mr. Schifferli followed as chief, serving two terms. The department joined the newly-formed county association in August 1924 and Fredonia was chosen as the location for the state convention.

The late DeForest Pratt was the next leader of the department and he served until 1930. It is noted that Mr. Sahle was again elected to act as head. While he was the chief of the department a hose bridge, smoke masks and a life net were purchased by the village board. Also during his term of office the Hook and Ladder truck was rebuilt, the old tires were replaced by pneumatic ones and the truck repainted. About the same time a new pump was installed on the old Fenner truck. In 1932 a new pumper replaced the Model T Pumper.

The next leaders of the fire department were William Schuler and then Louis Keith and in 1935 William Oglivie. It was while Mr. Oglivie was chief that a new Hook and Ladder truck, the first enclosed ladder truck with all aluminum ladders in the United States, was purchased at a cost of \$4,700.

Harry Schifferli was the chief

when the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's association held their convention in Fredonia in 1939 for the first time. Blair Simons was the president of the association.

Kirby Hayward followed Mr. Schifferli as chief in 1940. Donald Guest was next elected to the leadership of the department. This was an unusually serious time as the firemen were forced to be prepared to fight fires which might result from bombing and other possible war destruction. Not only was special equipment needed but also special training for emergencies.

In 1943-44 a fire district was formed in the town of Pomfret. For equipment for this district a gift of \$200 was received from Carl Spoto and the village supplied the balance needed to purchase a portable lighting system. George Tadt followed as chief in 1946 and the first department drum corps was organized in 1947.

In July 1946 the Western New York convention was again held in Fredonia. William Oglivie became president, the second Fredonia man to have this honor. In 1948 John McCraith was elected chief of the Fredonia department. During 1948-49 the New York State fire training program was started with the first basic course in the country being held here. George Zeiser was elected chief in 1950.

Contributions to the projects of the fire department by citizens and interested persons must not be overlooked although most of these have occurred since 1950 when our brief history terminates. The emergency truck was purchased in 1951 through public donations with a total of \$9,000 being received in donations.

The Fredonia Fire Department has been an active unit of the Southwestern New York Volun-

teer Firemen's Association which was formed in 1909 and now includes companies in the four county areas, Allegany, Erie, Chautauqua and Cattaraugus. The second annual meeting of this organization was held in

Fredonia in 1910. Blair Simons served as president in 1912 and 1913 and Fred Sahle in 1937. It is of note that the program for the meeting held in Fredonia in 1957 was dedicated to Blair Simons.

The Sinclairville Fair

In the days before speedy transportation and before the radio there was a great purpose and value in agricultural fairs because they depicted the progress of the country. New methods and new ideas of cultivation, a new strain of poultry, a new breed of sheep or new stitches of "fancy work" were displayed there.

To be sure, the entertainment provided at the early fairs was clean fun which offered relaxation but the contribution toward the development of the area was something of greater importance.

An example of one of the early fairs was that which was held at Sinclairville, annually for 10 years, the first exhibit being in 1875. "The Sinclairville Fair Ground Association" was a stock association formed by a group of Sinclairville men with a plan of conducting annual fairs and races.

The officials of this new organization were: President, H. E. Kimball; vice-president, William Reed; secretary, W. H. Lapham; treasurer, H. Silvester. The directors were H. B. Ball, Frank E. Shaw and J. D. Barker.

The association purchased 22 acres of land from Bela Lord who lived a short distance out of the town opposite the Evergreen Cemetery. At a cost of \$4,000 a half-mile track was laid out and then a grandstand was erected. Next, halls for exhibits, pens for sheep and swine and quarters for horses and cattle were constructed.

The cover page advertising the first Sinclairville Fair was elaborate and we note it was printed by "Censor Office Steam Print, Fredonia, N.Y. 1875." The name of the town was still, at that time, spelled Sinclearville as it was originally.

It was a tedious undertaking to drive livestock to the Fair Grounds. The remaining members of the families within driving distance were up early and while the men completed their morning "chores" the women packed the lunch and off to the Fair Grounds they started. Many came to Sinclairville by train, on the "Dolly Varden," and several extra trains were run those Fair days. The one hotel, the Sylvester House, served as accommodation for the patrons remaining more than one day. Tents were erected for the caretakers.

It is of interest to note that there were four classes of horses and six of cattle on exhibition at the first fair which began Sept. 14, 1875. The Ayrshire cattle belonging to A. D. Denny consisted of 24 head, the largest single entry. There was one class of swine and several for sheep. The largest fruit entry was made by E. H. Fay of Portland.

There were also vegetable and dairy products and the handiwork of the ladies represented hours of work. The display of hand made quilts, rag rugs, woven blankets and counterpanes is said to have been beautiful. One exhibit which attracted not

only children but also adults at this fair was that of three live alligators which had been shipped from Florida.

Reports indicate that the annual Sinclairville Fair grew in popularity. During the second Fair there was an Indian foot-race, and a running match between Phillip Anderson of Sinclairville and Mr. Flaff of Stockton with a prize of \$50 adding greatly to the entertainment and fun for all.

During the 1877 exhibition a trotting race drew an audience of 5,000 persons. In the Chautauqua Farmer of Sept. 19, 1877, special mention is made of Snow Flake potatoes which the grower said had yielded 29 bushels from one peck of seed.

A notice for the fair of 1882 listed under special features Mr. Burnham's celebrated stable of running horses with races scheduled among his horses and those owned by others. Premiums for the racing class were promised to be double those of previous

years. A bicycle race was advertised with a prize of \$50 for the winner. The great interest in thoroughbred cattle influenced the association to arrange an exhibit of Bela Lord's Holstein cattle. Mr. Lord was the first man to introduce Holstein cattle into this country.

The horse races held the last two days of the Fair produced great excitement. The Burnham horses were taken off the grand circuit to run for the folks at home. These were the horses which ran at Saratoga, Coney Island and Lexington. The appearance of the young jockey, Will Higgs, from near Charlotte, who began riding for Mr. Burnham in Kentucky at the age of 13, added to the interest. He won the Travers Cup for Mr. Burnham on the mare Brambal-etta at the Saratoga tracks.

After the Fair at Jamestown and the one in the Fredonia-Dunkirk area were organized they drew from the Sinclairville Fair which ceased after 10 years.

Henry Baker of Jamestown

The Town of Ellicott, formed from Pomfret June 1, 1812, was named in honor of Joseph Ellicott, long associated with the Holland Land Co. The town originally included Poland, Carroll, Kiantone, and a part of Busti.

James Prendergast was the first white man to seriously consider the location of the present Jamestown as a possible site for a settlement. The first survey of village lots of Jamestown, then known as "The Rapids" was made for Mr. Prendergast by his nephew, Thomas Bemus, in the Spring of 1815 and it was from his name that the later name for the village was chosen.

Among the early settlers whose names are considered as founders of Jamestown is that

of Henry Baker. Col. Henry Baker has been referred to as "that sterling patriot," having himself served in the War of 1812 and three of his sons having fought in the Civil War. He became one of Jamestown's most prominent men, without doubt its most important citizen next to James Prendergast.

Henry Baker was born in Rensselaer County, N. Y. in 1797 and died in Jamestown July 31, 1863 and is buried in the beautiful Lakeview Cemetery there.

After having served as fifer in the War of 1812 and having been honorably discharged at the close of the war he received a grant of land in Illinois. He did not care to locate there so sold the grant for a mere song and

remained in the Town of Elliccott.

For some time he lived at Fluvanna, building there a small shoe shop where he carried on the trade which he had previously learned. At the same time he engaged in lumber dealing. In 1820 he moved into Jamestown and while continuing his shoe making he devoted more time to buying logs. He also engaged in merchandising, real estate and various kinds of business. He bought out the interest of Judiah E. Budlong in the mercantile firm of Budlong, Barrett & Co., the new firm consisting of Samuel Barrett, Samuel Budlong and Henry Baker. He was one of six associates who in 1836, purchased the Judge Prendergast estate which consisted of immense water power, saw mills, grist mills, 1,500 acres of land and numerous village lots. Later he became the sole owner.

Previous to this Judge Prendergast had offered to deed Mr. Baker a whole square on Third Street in what was known as the swamp district if he would build a house on it. Mr. Baker accepted the gift and the house which he built was the best in the village. The former post office occupied part of that square. Years later he had a home site on Baker Street Extension.

Henry Baker took an active

part in public affairs, serving faithfully in various capacities. He was supervisor of the town for a number of terms. In 1824 he succeeded R. F. Fenton as colonel of the Chautauqua County militia regiment and thereafter always bore that title.

In the Fall of 1822 Henry Baker married Anna Keyes who lived only until the following May. Six years later he married Maria Fish, the daughter of Cyrus Fish, another early settler of that area and who had come in 1814 originally from Stonington, Conn. Cyrus Fish was a soldier of the Revolution, having enlisted at the age of 18 years. Maria was 10 years old when the Revolution began and often told of going into the field to catch her father's horse while he prepared his gun and ammunition for the first battle. Mr. Fish, as a result of illness acquired during the war, lived but three years after removing to Jamestown. His wife, Bridget Jones, died three years later.

Mrs. Baker's paternal grandfather served in the French and Indian War in 1756 and her father was a lieutenant in the Connecticut regiment during the Revolution.

Of the large family of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Baker a number of descendants remained in the Jamestown area.

'Harveyized' Steel and Pottery

In the Town of Elliccott, formed from Pomfret, in the area which later became Jamestown, lived two brothers who came to be known throughout America as remarkable scientific mechanics and inventors.

Thomas Harvey, born in Wardsborough, Vt., in 1795 became an apprentice at the blacksmith trade at the early age of 14. A few years later

he began to master the trade of machinist and worked at building machinery for cotton mills in Vermont and Kentucky. He came to The Rapids, as Jamestown was then known, in about 1815, to supervise the cotton factory, which particular building of machinery for a factory never materialized.

There was a blacksmith shop between First and Second

Streets on what was later known as Mechanics' Alley and here it was that Thomas Harvey became employed. It is believed that this shop was erected in 1813 for Judge Prendergast and mill irons were fashioned there for him. Without doubt this was the first blacksmith shop in the area.

Charles Harvey joined his brother Thomas in The Rapids, about five years later. They built a shop and worked together for several years. Thomas then began conducting a machine business in Daniel Hazeltine's woolen factory. There he built a carding machine for Blanchard and Willard and woolen machinery for Mr. Hazeltine. He devoted some time to his original skill of blacksmithing and then again turned his attention to machinery.

Thomas Harvey, because of his successful results with steel, became known as the father of "Harveyized steel" or hardened steel. The reputation of the Harvey brothers as skillful mechanics spread throughout America. Their fame was a result of their superior workmanship and their inventive genius. The first machine that was made and used to fashion pins with heads was theirs. Pins today are produced by machines using the principles involved in this invention of the Harvey brothers.

Among the inventions of Thomas were a loom for weaving hog's bristles and cloth for stocks; a machine for pressing bricks and hay; one for making railroad spikes and one for sawing down trees. He made improvements in the manufacture of cast-steel, and forming a company, built factories but that venture was interrupted because of lack of finances.

The inventions and patents of the brother Charles may not have been so numerous but were all highly useful and valuable. For a while he engaged

in making railroad spikes at Poughkeepsie. Then he invented and patented a machine to scour and clean rice and later a power loom to weave hair cloth. He also invented a hot air furnace and in addition to that patent obtained one for a hot-air register border.

These brothers, without doubt, produced more inventions than any other individuals in the entire Chautauqua County. While they were in Jamestown their invented machines were in use in many manufacturing plants throughout the United States. The brothers finally moved east and located in New York and it was here that Thomas' fame as an inventor and steel worker became world wide.

* * *

One of the early industries of The Rapids was the manufacture of earthenware. The pottery shop was established by William H. Fenton and his father, Jacob Fenton, who came into this section in 1814. The original shop was between First and Second Streets.

After the death of his father in 1822, William removed the business to what is now Fluvanna, where there was a better bed of clay. Samuel Whittemore became his partner. The articles made at the pottery were carried about the country by peddlers, of which there were a number. They traded the earthenware for things which the settlers had in stock.

The very interesting fact about this endeavor was that the clay for the pottery was taken from the bottom of Chautauqua Lake opposite Fluvanna and in the bay above Celoron. The kiln used in this industry was capable of producing from \$200 to \$250 worth of articles every two weeks. This industrial enterprise was discontinued in 1839, for what reason we do not know. William Fenton, at that time moved back to Jamestown.

The Blind Horse Ball

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The great number of people traveling in the southern part of our present Chautauqua County previous to 1814 were doing so for the purpose of exploring the region with a view to discovering suitable places for permanent location. These travelers usually found an inn or tavern where they could secure over-night accommodations, an inn being one of the first considerations of an early settlement.

The first framed building erected at the Rapids, now Jamestown, was intended as a stopping place or tavern until a hotel should be built. It was built by John Blowers and first used especially as a boarding house for the men engaged in building a dam and mills. The frame of the building was of heavy white oak timbers and was one and one-half stories high. For several years this house was known as the Blowers' House and was regarded as a stopping place for man and beast traveling through the wilderness of southern Chautauqua County.

It was Jacob Fenton, however, who built the first regular hotel at the Rapids and it was indeed an unusual building. In 1814 he built a two-story house with the plan of using it for a tavern. It was located between First and Second Streets on the east side of Main Street.

The street was very steep at that point and the house was at the steepest point. It was erected so that the front of the building was toward the outlet rather than toward the street. A wide two-story veranda extended the length of the tavern on one side. The hill was so steep that on the north side the second floor was level with the ground. Fenton's tavern was regarded as the business center of the town and there they adver-

tised especially their venison, whiskey and potatoes.

The following year Phineas Palmeter erected a large two-story building on the corner of Main and Third Streets. The plan was to have the building used for whatever purpose it was needed. The building remained unfinished for two or three years and then was bought by Gilbert Ballard and additions made, and as a tavern it opened in 1818.

There are entertaining stories about some of these taverns. The one about the first ball and the Ballard Inn is especially amusing.

In 1815 Horatio Dix and Jesse Smith together built a tavern on the southeast corner of Third and Main Streets. The building was nearly completed that Fall and a ball was planned for Jan. 1, 1816, the first ball to be given in what is now Jamestown. The ball room of the Inn, unfortunately, was not completed in time for the New Year's occasion. Invitations had been sent out for miles about and being determined that the guests should not be disappointed, at this ball, the owners removed a half finished partition between two large rooms on the first floor which resulted in a larger dance floor than the planned ball room would have had. All the persons in the area were invited except two newcomers, Royal Keyes and Jediah Budlong. The temporary ball room had a door at one end and a fireplace at the other.

There was in town a large, white, old, blind horse who would advance when led or when someone would give him a slap and command, "Go it, Blind". While the dancers were enjoying the country dance, Money Musk, "Old Whitey" was stationed outside the door and at a propitious moment the door

was opened and the horse given a slap and the familiar "Go it, Blind" command and down the ball room amidst the crowd of dancers waltzed the old horse. His pace quickened by the tempo of the music but his line of advance remained straight with no "allemand the right" or "to the left" and at the fire-place he came to a stop. He was

led from the room by friends. This celebrated ball of Jamestown was for years recalled as "The Blind Horse Ball".

It is told that several years later when Mr. Budlong had become Colonel and Mr. Dix had become Major in the 162nd Regiment the blind horse trick they had played on others was repeated on them at the same tavern.

Two Early Schools

A decided interest in education was apparent in the 1830's and in those years a number of schools were established in our section of Western New York. Some were of short duration but served well while in operation.

One of these was the Salem Academy located at Salem X Roads, now Brocton. In 1832 Jacob Whitman purchased from Moses Joy a farm in the north part of Lot 19, in the Town of Portland, which joined the Town of Pomfret. This farm was later occupied by J. L. Hatch and H.A.S. Thompson.

Mr. Whitman's son was attending college at Clinton, N. Y., and his plan was to build and establish a high school on his own premises. There he expected to place his son, upon his return from college, in charge of the new school. By 1834 the plan had been carried out, the building erected and completed at his own expense.

The location was a short distance west of the Ryckman, Day and Co. wine house. There for some years stood the residence of Milton Clements which was later removed and owned by Mrs. D. A. Baker. The building was occupied the following Winter by Mr. Whitman and later by Charles H. LaHatt, son of the Rev. Charles LeHatt, pastor of the Baptist church at Salem X Roads. Still later it

was occupied by S. H. Shaw who practiced medicine in Ripley.

Although the Academy was undertaken as a private enterprise it gained much publicity and notoriety. In order to have a more efficient organization a board of trustees of the citizens of the town was elected. The president was Barzilla Barker, son of Hezekiah Barker, one of the very early settlers of Canadaway (Fredonia). Under the management of the new board the school was put on a sound and efficient basis.

For a number of years the Academy was very successful. Why the interest faded and the institution died is not known. No records which might spread light on the subject were ever found. The building was eventually moved by Hubbard Wells to a location on the west side of the same farm and became the main part of the home of Joseph L. Hatch.

Another school which has long been forgotten was the Quaker Boarding School situated in Jamestown. It was in 1833 that a widow and Quakeress, Mary E. Osborne, located in Jamestown and purchased a piece of property from Gen. Allen on what was at that time known as the Frewsburg Road, later called the Quaker Road. Still later it acquired its pre-

sent name of Foote Avenue. The lot was on the west side of the street and about half way between the points where Foote Avenue is intersected by Mechanic and Newland Avenues.

Mrs. Osborne built here a large but plain building to serve as a boarding school. The school became very popular and soon the attendance increased to such an extent that it was necessary to build additions to the original building which gave it a rambling appearance. The notoriety of the institution grew and it soon became regarded as one of the excellent advantages of Western New York.

The teachers were of a superior class and many of them were from abroad. The methods

of teaching were advanced. All possible aids available for teaching were adopted and the aim of the teachers was to present each subject so that it could be mastered by every student. Many young women wishing a "finishing touch" to their education were enrolled in this school.

An unfortunate end came to this institution. Mrs. Osborne had a brother, Alvin Cornell, who with his wife also lived at the school. In 1843 Cornell killed his wife and cut his own throat but recovered. He was tried, convicted and sentenced to be hanged. Mrs. Osborne's plea to Governor Wright caused him to commute the sentence to life imprisonment. The Quaker school was never reopened.

Items of 1869

The following items were gleaned from the issues of The Chautauqua Farmer for the year 1869. The paper was published each week by J. M. Lake, part of the year in Dunkirk and the remainder of the year in Forestville:

Firemen's Ball—Fredonia Fire Company No. 1, will give a splendid ball at Concert Hall, on Wednesday, April 14th. Wahler's full band, from Buffalo, will be in attendance and the Street Cars will run from Dunkirk, free of charge. This will be the most brilliant affair of the season, and should be patronized by all lovers of good music and dancing.

The M. E. Church of Fredonia have completed their church. The grounds, parsonage and church building cost \$30,000.

The old Fredonia Academy is now the property of the Village of Fredonia.

At the Fredonia Driving Park,

Saturday, in the trotting race between the bay mare, owned by W. Fenner, of Stockton, and Spotted Horse, by H. Sylvester, of Sinclairville, the purse of \$100 was won by the Fenner mare in 2:10.

Bartram Brothers, of Fredonia, slaughtered a splendid "critter" last Monday; it was a four year old steer raised by William Moore, and weighed, after dressing, 968 pounds.

L. E. Pike has disposed of his carding mill business at Laona, to V. Dunn.

Mr. R. W. Lester, of Fredonia, is at North East with a fine lot of water colored Photographs. The Star says that Mr. Lester is a fine artist, and we say "Amen".

Ed. and Rowel Tyler of Fredonia, have bought the Machine Shop formerly owned by A. W. Hull, on Main St., Forestville. They pay \$4,400 for it.

One day last week, a fish weighing 92 pounds, floated

ashore on Chautauqua Lake, at Mayville.

The Breakwater — (Dunkirk) — Within the past ten days about 200,000 feet of timber has arrived here for our new breakwater. It was principally from Mayville and Harbor Crick. The contractors, Messrs. Hart and Jennings have arrived and work upon the breakwater will be resumed soon.

The workmen have commenced building the brick church in Portland. Mr. Manley J. Tooke of Sheridan, has purchased the farm, on the main road one mile east of the Center, of the Boschert heirs for \$4,824. The farm contains about 50 acres.

The people of Brocton are moving the matter of a new cemetery.

The Brocton Hotel, formerly the Exchange, and now kept by Mr. M. Francis, has been rented by Mr. C. Pierce of Stockton, and the institution is to be run by Mr. Love of the same town.

Fine Building — (Forestville) — Mr. L. J. Pierce, one of our wide awake and thrifty merchants, is building a large brick house on Pearl street. The Architect is Capt. E. A. Curtis of Fredonia. The workmen are now slating the roof and when completed it will be the finest residence in town.

Mr. G. N. Frazine has sold his

hardware store in Fredonia, to Capt. E. A. Curtis.

The Methodists of Silver Creek have just placed a new 1,000 pound bell in their church.

The new Masonic Hall at Dunkirk is completed. It is an elegant structure.

D. D. Morey, the former proprietor of Morey Hotel, Fredonia, has purchased the Hotel at Little Valley, Catt. county, of Jay Guno for \$6,000. Dan takes possession next Monday.

A patent has been obtained for the manufacture of waterproof paper. It will be no uncommon thing, by and by, to carry a quart of milk home in a paper bag.

Philips House—I have lately opened the Hotel at Balcoms Corners, Villanova. where I am prepared to pay particular attention to the traveling public. A call is solicited. O. M. Towne—proprietor.

A. Root, proprietor of the Hamlet Hotel, advertises a Christmas Dance, Dec. 23.

C. C. Lewis, of Harmony, made this season, three pounds of Maple Sugar, to the tree in twelve days.

Buttons — The men in the neighborhood of Smith's Mills go without buttons on their coats in order to let the little girls have them to string. One little girl has 200 and another 500 all on one string, and all different kinds.

Early Newspapers

Today we may have two or three daily newspapers delivered to our door and also we may receive through the mail any number of daily papers and once a week receive our local weekly paper—all of this without any effort on our part other than walking to our door or to the mail box and writing a check.

In the days of early settlement newspapers were not within arm's distance and in fact there were very few available publications. There were many problems connected with the publishing and editing of a paper in those days. Communication and transportation both presented difficult problems. Therefore as we consider the many at-

tempts to provide the pioneers with a publication disseminating news and information we should not forget that it was the only way most of them had to obtain news of any kind except through occasional letters from their families back East. These letters were few due to the high rate of postage.

The history of our own local weekly, The Fredonia Censor, is familiar to most of us. The efforts of publishers of other papers are not so well known.

The first newspaper published in the County was the Chautauque Gazette, established in Fredonia in January 1817 by James Percival. The funds needed to set up this paper were raised by the citizens who subscribed from five to thirty dollars each, thus creating a joint stock organization. A large portion of the stock was later relinquished by the subscribers because of the difficulty of sustaining a single paper at that early period.

The paper passed into the hands of Carpenter and Hull, then to James Hull alone. This paper, Clintonian in its policies, was continued until 1822 when it was suspended for nearly a year. The People's Gazette, after having been published in Forestville by William S. Snow for two years, was united with Mr. Hull's paper and became the Fredonia Gazette. The establishment was removed to Dunkirk where it continued for a few months when it was removed to Westfield and there united with the Chautauqua Phenix.

In May 1819 the Chautauque Eagle was born in Mayville and published for about one year by Robert J. Curtis. Although this paper was of the smaller class it frequently contained "poetical effusions" from the pen of James H. Price, a man of talent but an unfortunate member of the bar.

Jamestown's first newspaper

was the Jamestown Journal which was commenced in June 1826 by Adolphus Fletcher. The first year of its existence it was edited by Abner Hazeltine, Esq. and for many years he contributed his original material to the paper. With the excitement following the abduction of William Morgan such a public journal was forced to express a stand and it espoused the cause of Anti-Masonry.

Early in 1828 the Chautauqua Republican was started at the same place by Morgan Bates. It was established with a view to opposing Anti-Masonry and promoting the election of Gen. Jackson. After Mr. Bates had published this paper for about a year and a half it passed into the hands of Richard K. Kellogg who retained it for about a year.

A Universalist clergyman, Lewis C. Todd, engaged in the publishing of the Genius of Liberty, a paper devoted to the support of the religious views of the Universalists, then became its proprietor. He was followed by Charles McLean who soon associated himself with the original proprietor, Mr. Bates. They were succeeded by Alfred Smith and E. H. Culter who were followed by S. S. C. Hamilton who chose the name the Republican Banner for the paper and moved the establishment to Mayville.

The first newspaper at Westfield was the Western Star, founded by Harvey Newcomb in June 1826. After being discontinued for a while in 1828 it was revived under the name of the Chautauqua Phenix. In 1831 it became the American Eagle. In 1833 it came into the ownership of G. W. Bliss who changed its name to Westfield Courier. This, of short duration, was followed by the Western Farmer published for a year or two by Bliss and Knight. The Westfield Messenger was established in 1841 by C. J. J. and T.

Ingersoll.

The Mayville Sentinel was established in 1834 by Timothy Kibby and in a year was taken over by Burban Brockway who continued it until 1845.

In the early part of 1835 the Western Democrat and Literary Inquirer was commenced in Fredonia. It was published by William Verrinder and edited by an "association of gentlemen." It passed into the hands of Randall, Crosby & Co., as proprietors and for part of the time was edited by Rufus Wilmot Griswold. He was succeeded by W. H. Cutler and while in his charge the establishment

was purchased by Arba K. Maynard and removed to Van Buren Harbor where it became the Van Buren Times and there died after a year or two.

The Western Intelligencer was published for several months at Forestville in 1833 by Mr. Cutler and the Chautauqua Whig, set up at Dunkirk, became the Dunkirk Beacon until 1845 when it was entirely discontinued.

In contrast to these other papers, The Fredonia Censor, which started in 1821 with about 40 subscribers, has continued to serve the area through these many years.

A Prisoner's Experiences

The very unusual experiences of an early native of Stockton, Linus Wilson Miller, were those of great suffering and hardship. It was his sympathy for the patriots of Canada, who planned to strike for their independence in 1837, which led to his eight years of imprisonment.

Benjamin Miller of Oneida County came into this section in the Spring of 1811. He arrived with two ox teams and one or two hired man and on the day of his arrival built a temporary shanty of poles and hemlock boughs. This was the first settlement in Bear Creek Valley.

Linus, the second son, was born on Dec. 28, 1817. The Miller home, the birthplace and boyhood home of Linus, was a "short mile" from the settlement of Delanti (now Stockton), at the foot of the hills forming the eastern boundary of the Bear Creek Valley.

In those early days the district common school usually offered the only means of education for the children of the pioneers. However, there were a few private schools throughout Western New York. One of these was opened in Delanti in

the Winter of 1834 by Worthy Putnam. It was here that young Miller attended school.

To the astonishment of his teacher and fellow students on "composition day," Linus presented an essay entitled "A Visit to the Moon." This is his first recorded attempt at original compositions. His subsequent writings confirm the early opinion of his intellect and ability.

Benjamin Miller was a successful farmer. In the Spring of 1835 he placed his son, Linus, in the law office of James Mullett, Esq. of Fredonia, where under the guidance of this eminent jurist he pursued his ambition to read law. The following year he located in the office of Anselm Potter of Mayville where he felt he would have an opportunity to become acquainted with the noted lawyers of the day.

It was while he was studying here that the excitement over the determination of the patriots of Canada to revolt and establish their own government aroused great feeling on the frontier. Arms and munitions were furnished by friends on this side of the border. Among the many citizens of the States

who were in sympathy with the revolting Canadians was Linus Miller. After completing a tour of Canada to study the conditions there, he joined the Patriots.

Lockport was the headquarters of the insurgents of this side of the lines and July 4, 1838 was the day set for the general uprising under the command of Gen. McLoud. Linus Miller held the commission of lieutenant colonel and was entrusted with important secret service both in Canada and the States. The battle of Short Hill, occurring prematurely, resulted in several leaders being captured and before the middle of June they found themselves prisoners at Niagara. Among the captured men were Colonels Morrow and Miller.

Great excitement prevailed. A grand jury was called and "true bills" were found against those whom the government had doomed for the scaffold. The prisoners were immediately put upon trial. Miller was the second one called to answer the charge of treason. When asked if he pleaded guilty or not guilty his reply was, "I shall not plead to my indictment at present". When it was demanded that he plead one way or the other, he stated that he must have time to prepare for his trial and that he would not at present answer to the charge.

In an eloquent speech Linus Miller claimed his rights and was ordered away. Col. Morrow was then tried, found guilty and sentenced to be hanged on July 30. Col. Miller was placed upon trial the first of August at the session of Oyer and Terminer held at Niagara and here he received the same sentence as his devoted companion, Col. Morrow, who had been executed two days before. When asked by the court if he had anything to say as to why the death sentence should not be passed upon

him he again replied in an eloquent speech.

Deep feeling was aroused along the American frontier. Newspapers, organizations and individuals pleaded for mercy in behalf of the condemned man, Col. Miller who was now 21 years of age. William H. Seward became concerned to the extent of writing to His Excellency, Sir George Arthur, Governor of Canada, asking for a reprieve for Linus Miller. This letter was written from the home of the parents of the condemned man. Included with this message was a petition signed by hundreds of citizens of this area.

Terms were offered to Col. Miller but the concessions required of the prisoner seemed so humiliating that he refused the offer, choosing rather to face death.

It was on the 22nd of August, 1838, that the sheriff, entering the jail, read to Linus Miller a reprieve commuting his death sentence and that of 12 of his comrades, to life confinement in Van Dieman's Land, a penal colony of the British Crown.

The following day the prisoners, chained together in pairs, were sent under guard to Kingston and confined in Fort Henry. On Nov. 9 Colonel Miller and nine other state prisoners were shipped to England. From Liverpool Linus Miller and some of the others were removed to London and confined at Newgate. Here for the short duration of their stay they were treated with kindness.

A few of the prisoners were acquitted there during their examination but Mr. Miller, with 200 state prisoners, was transported to Van Dieman's Land where they arrived after a four month's voyage.

Linus Miller had already, from the time he had been taken prisoner, experienced most inhuman treatment, but the

hardships and suffering, both mental and physical, in Van Die-man's Land, the land of British slavery, were even worse. The prisoners were driven under the lash to their labor and were forced to toil as beasts of burden. His years spent among the convicts were filled with agony and he saw many of them, who could not stand the abuse, die there.

The attention of some of the free inhabitants was finally attracted to Linus Miller as they recognized his superior intellect. He was taken into the family of the Rev. J. A. Manton to serve as clerk of the church and as a tutor in the Manton family. There he was respected and treated with kindness. Following this he was hired in the family of assistant commissary General Lempriere.

Colonel Miller received full reprieve on Feb. 7, 1845 in consequence of the intercession of the United States government. In September, through the generosity of friends and interested persons, he set sail for America, landing at New Castle, Del. on Jan. 25, 1846. Some of the pardoned prisoners were unable to obtain passage home since they had no money and, owing to the distressed state of the colony, wages were low and employment very difficult to obtain.

A short time later Linus Miller reached his home at Stockton, where he was greeted by his devoted family and friends. Hon. William Seward offered him an opportunity to continue the study of law in his office but this Mr. Miller declined and instead devoted his time to the preparation of material for his book "Notes of an Exile."

This work, dedicated to Hon. Seward, was published in Fredonia in 1846 by W. McKinstry & Co. An edition of 2,000 books was sold within a few weeks. In

this work Mr. Miller described in detail his experiences in Canada, England and in Van Die-man's Land.

The marriage of Miss Ann Jennete Curtis of Courtland, to Linus Miller was celebrated Jan. 10, 1850. To them were born two sons and three daughters. The eldest was named Manton Lempriere Miller in honor of the two men who had befriended his father while he was a captive. The daughter, Mary, married Forrest Crissey who also gained a reputation as an author and Hattie married George Thompson of Stockton. The younger children were Alice and Benjamin.

While in captivity Mr. Miller, during his lonely hours, studied the Southern starry heavens and had certain convictions concerning the blank field where no stars were seen, at the left of the blazing Southern Cross, the constellation of five brilliant stars appearing along the horizon. After years of study and reflection he expressed his thoughts in a lecture. This he gave at a meeting of the Fredonia Library Association in addition to several other audiences in the county. The lecture, as a literary production, was received with enthusiasm but the conclusion was not always accepted.

Mr. Miller also became interested in an experiment concerning "meal feeding" in about the year 1872. Some of his articles appeared in the county papers and also in the New York Tribune and New York Times. He prepared a work on that subject for the American Dairymen's Association.

Poor health finally overcame Linus Miller and he sold his beautiful home near Stockton, and moved to Jamestown, where he passed away April 14, 1880.

The Pullman Palace Car

Traveling by rail was made much more convenient, comfortable and rapid because of an idea and dream of a young man who was a native of Brocton, Chautauqua County, N. Y. George Pullman, born Mar. 3, 1831 to James Lewis Pullman and Emily C. Minton Pullman, was responsible for producing the Pullman Palace Car.

Not only was George Pullman ingenious but his father, before him, was of an inventive mind. The father, more often referred to as Lewis rather than James Lewis, constructed and patented a machine in 1835 which has served a mighty purpose. His invention, which proved very practical, was for moving buildings upon wheels. As may be assumed from this great accomplishment, Mr. Pullman was skilled as a mechanic and a builder.

George, the third of the 10 children of Lewis Pullman, attended school until he was 14 years of age when the family moved from Brocton to Albion, N. Y., where the father died in 1853. Two of the sons became clergymen, Royal Henry and James M., and Frank became Assistant U. S. District Attorney and was located in New York City for some time.

George secured a contract for widening a part of the Erie Canal for which he received \$6,000. We note that later he was in Chicago contracting for raising streets and also for moving buildings without interrupting business. At the end of this project he had accumulated \$20,000. For years he must have dreamed of the sleeping car which eventually he was able to construct.

In 1858 or '59, George Pullman purchased two coaches from the Chicago and Alton Rail Road which he remodeled into sleepers. The first became the historic No. 9. It was built of

wood, except for the wheels and axles, and had a low flat roof. The seats were without springs, the car was lighted with candles, it was heated by a wood burning stove in each end and the open wash rooms were provided with tin basins. The cost of the car was approximately \$4,500. On Sept. 1, 1859 this famous No. 9 made its initial trip from Bloomington to Chicago.

During the Civil War George Pullman went west and after returning in 1864 he produced the renowned Pioneer. This was the first sleeping car which approached the modern sleeper of today and the cost of it was near \$20,000.

Problems arose when it was discovered that the car could not be used satisfactorily because the station platforms were too wide and the bridges too small. Mr. Pullman's suggestion to cut the platforms and widen the bridges did not meet with favor until an important occasion arose.

When President Lincoln was shot in 1865 the State wished to display the greatest respect possible and desired to transfer the remains in state from Washington, D. C. to Springfield, Ill. The railroads of Illinois also desired to use the best conveyance obtainable. It was then that the platforms were cut and the bridges widened and the Pioneer was used to carry the remains of the martyred President to Springfield.

George Pullman also suggested putting both the coaches and sleepers on the same train, insisting that it would pay. This idea met with opposition at first but when finally tried proved profitable.

In 1867 Mr. Pullman married Harriet Sauger and they made their home in Chicago. Of their four children, Florence became the wife of Frank O. Lowden, the governor of Illinois, Harriet

became Mrs. Schemerhorn of New York City, and George and Sawyer died quite young.

In 1880 the Pullman Co. built an industrial center outside Chicago, a place of over 12,000 inhabitants, covering a space of 3,600 acres, a city within itself called Pullman, Ill. George served as president and his brother, Albert B., became general superintendent of the Pullman Palace Car Co.

Fifty years from the date of the establishment of the Pullman Co. the organization had built 41,000 passenger cars and 312,000 freight cars. From time to time it absorbed other companies and eventually came to make most of the materials used in the construction and equipment of their cars.

The first vestibule used on a Pullman car was in 1887 and this improvement prevented many railroad accidents.

For many years one of George Pullman's daughters had the responsibility of naming the Pullman cars. The names were taken from a city, town, village or hamlet of various parts of the world.

Mr. Pullman not only created a comfortable sleeping car with successful operating methods but his idea also led to the consolidation of small railroads into super rail systems and also to the arrangement whereby cars ran long distances over connecting roads. This resulted in more ease and time saving for the traveling public and hence increased the passenger business.

The Spelling of Chautauqua

In the early records of Western New York the name of the large inland lake which was so important to the Indians, the French explorers and then the settlers, was spelled in several different ways. By the time the name came to designate also a county and a town it was spelled Chautauque.

Judge Elial Todd Foote, who had lived in this area since before 1817, had long been much concerned over the spelling of the name. He had collected material for an early history of the county and had studied the question of the spelling and found facts to substantiate his claim that the terminal letter should be "a".

Judge Foote had served as judge in our county for 20 years. This position he had filled with great satisfaction and he had become known for his thorough investigation of every subject and his carefully drawn conclusions in his many cases.

In the Fall of 1859, Judge

Foote, then residing in New Haven, Conn., made a visit to our county to petition the Board of Supervisors to settle the question of the spelling of Chautauque by adopting "a" for the final letter. A request received from this man, who was held in such high esteem, met with prompt attention, and action on the spelling was quickly taken.

Judge Foote's letter to the Fredonia Advertiser and an introductory note from the editor follows;

"The following letter is from Judge Foote, the head of all antiquarians in Chautauque, and respected alike for his learning and his virtues—Editor, Fredonia Advertiser.

"To the Editor of The Fredonia Advertiser; Dear Sir; Will you permit me to suggest for your consideration the following facts relative to the spelling of Chautauqua?

"1. The oldest map in the Surveyor General's office, includ-

ing Western New York, spells our lake with the terminating 'qua', (Ask Judge Walworth who has seen it).

"2. The early laws of our statute books relating to Chatauque Lake and its outlet, spell it with the terminating 'qua.'

"3. The name of the lake, and county named from the lake, is unquestionably of Indian origin, and should have their prevailing pronunciation.

"4. Look at the names of our western counties and streams etc. in Western New York, where the Senecas have prevailed. Where do you find the precedent for que? It is Latin, and not Seneca or Indian. (Ask any Latin scholar). See Oneida, Onandaga, Cayuga, Tioga, Niagara, Cayuta, Canandaigua, Cassadaga, Tonawanda, Tionester, Cayananyanda, (Conewango) or broad terminating o, as in Otego, Otegego, Owego, Chettinargo, Chenango, etc. etc.

"The Holland Land Company evidently altered the spelling. I have it from most reliable authority that Mr. Stevens, an early clerk, and long in the Land Office with Mr. Ellicott at Batavia, was a graduate of Princeton College, N. J., and was Mr. Ellicott's adviser in all such matters. Mr. Ellicott, although an eminent mathematician, was not an educated man; and I believe not one of his clerks. I think this accounts for the Latin or French termination, as they wrote it que.

"The name of the county should, if consistent, be so spelled as to give it our pronunciation by intelligent men who read the name without having been taught our pronunciation orally.

"Who that travels far away from our country does not almost daily hear our county called Chau-tauke in two syllables, or Chautoc County? Who

has been in our Legislature, and not heard our county called over in the list of counties by a new clerk from the eastern part of the state in this manner? Or what member from our county has not frequently been alluded to by eastern members as the gentleman from Chautauke, or Chautoc, in two syllables? What necessity for continuing this inconsistent spelling 'que'?

In a legal point of view it is of no consequence. The proposed change of spelling invalidates nothing, endangers nothing; the passage of no law is necessary.

Let the Supervisors and the Courts spell it correctly, and the newspapers do the same, and public sentiment is clearly in favor of it, and the change will rapidly and quietly be accomplished, and no one injured, and the pronouncing abroad corrected.

Will Mr. Editor investigate this question, and sustain it in an editorial if it accords with your views, etc?

With many thanks for past favors, I am as ever Truly your friend, and most obedient

E. T. F.

P.S. This petition to the Board of Supervisors and County Courts, asks them to adopt the spelling indicated, in their records and proceedings, and the petitioners pledge themselves to spell it thus, and recommend their friends to do the same.

* * *

Following is a report of the action taken at the meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

Annual meeting, Board of Supervisors at Mayville, Tuesday, Oct. 11, 1859:

The select committee to whom was referred the petition of Hon. E. T. Foote and others, asking that the name of this county be spelled with a final "a" instead of "e," submitted a preamble and resolution which was adopted, the former setting

forth the belief that the change prayed for was in accordance with the pronunciation of the aborigines from whom the name of the county is derived, and will tend to correct the same; the latter as follows:

Ordered, that the Clerk of this Board be directed in all records and correspondence to spell the name of our county with a terminating "a" instead of "e," thus—Chautauqua; and that the officers of the county and of the several towns and all others who have occasion to write or print the name, be requested to do the same.

The Clerk was directed to forward a copy of said order to the State District and County officers, and the publishers of the papers of the county, and request them to conform to the change indicated.

Ordered, that the County Clerk be and is hereby directed to change the seal of the county, so that the spelling of the name shall be Chautauqua, in accordance with a resolution this day adopted by this Board.

The origin of the name of our county has been a subject of study by many historians as has also the various spelling of the name up to the time of the settlement of our pioneers when it

came to be spelled Chautauque.

The existence of Chautauqua Lake was known from the time LaSalle discovered it in 1682, 67 years before Celoron saw it. Its name, however, is said to have appeared first in the journal of Celoron which recorded his expedition and there it is spelled 'Chautakouin' and "Chatacoin." Father Boncamp, who accompanied Celoron, spelled it "Tjadakoin."

DuQuesne, in his letters to the French government, in 1753, spelled it "Chataconit." In Captain Pouchot's "History of the French and Indian wars in North America" written in French, it appears as "Shatacoin." In the affidavit of Stephen Coffin, sworn to before Sir William Johnson, it is spelled "Chadakoin." on Crevecoeur's map of 1758 it is "Chatacouin" and on the maps of Pownell in 1776 and Lewis Evans in 1755 it is spelled "Jadaxque."

General William Irvine who visited Chautauqua prior to 1788 writes it "Jadaqua." The Holland Land company map of 1804 calls the lake "Chautaugue." From this time during the settlement of the county and until Judge Foote succeeded in having the spelling corrected it appeared "Chautauque."

The Damon Hanging

One of the most spectacular events in the history of our area was the hanging of an inhabitant of Pomfret. Joseph Damon, who lived on what is still referred to as Damon Hill on the Chautauqua Road, was found guilty of murdering his wife, and the death penalty was exacted.

The case, without doubt, was the most celebrated criminal one of the time, not alone because of the persons and circumstances involved, but be-

cause it was the first crime of the kind committed in the entire county and the first execution of a public nature.

Joseph Damon, born in Worcester, Mass. on March 18, 1800, the son of Stephen and Hannah Damon, came with his parents and his three brothers, Martin, North and Stephen (a half-brother) to Chautauqua County in 1816.

Martin and Joseph Damon gained a desirable reputation because of their skill in quar-

rying and cutting stone. Many of the head stones in our Pioneer Cemetery, Forest Hill and also in some of the neighboring cemeteries were designed and cut by these men. Their work was outstanding because of the unusual and elaborate designs and the very fine work involved.

In a fit of anger on April 24, 1834, Joseph Damon struck his wife on the head with an iron bar. About 4 o'clock that afternoon North Damon came into the village and asked Dr. Walworth and Dr. Crosby to go immediately to the home of his brother, Joseph.

Upon entering the house the doctors found the dying wife upon a bed in the corner of the room and in a pitiful condition. A fire poker, standing near the fire place, bore unmistakable signs of being the murder weapon. Some bystanders, directed by Dr. Walworth, who was also a Judge of the County Court, took Joseph Damon in custody.

Addison Gardner, Circuit Judge of the Eighth Court, presided at the trial. With him were associated Philo Orton, Thomas B. Campbell, Benjamin Walworth and Artemus Hearic, County Judges. Sheldon Smith, a talented young lawyer of Buffalo, was the principal counsel in the prosecution of Damon. Jacob Houghton opened the case for the prisoner and James Mullett closed the case in his behalf.

In his eloquent address in defense of Damon, Mr. Mullett admitted the shocking character of the prisoner's act but sought to excite the compassion of the jury and to make them receptive to the defense of insanity, a plea new to the court. The powerful address of Mr. Mullett has made the case one long to be remembered. Despite the effort, Joseph Damon was convicted of murder and sentenced to be hanged.

The execution took place on the following May 15 in Mayville on the hill where the high school now stands. The place of execution was arranged near the jail and the court house and on the hill so that it might be viewed, by interested persons, from the descending side.

People arrived, even three days ahead, to witness the gruesome event. Two military companies were called out as guard under the command of Col. William D. Bond, the members being drawn up in a single file in a circle about 30 feet away from the gallows. Within the circle were the minister, Deacon Sawyer, the sheriff, William Saxton of Westfield, and his assistants, two or three medical men and several magistrates called as witnesses.

The coffin for the condemned man was drawn up by one horse from the jail to the gallows and Damon walked close behind it. He was dressed in a long white shroud that reached almost to his feet. It has been stated that the only fife played during the march was that of John Derby of Mayville. The coffin was placed on the ground in front of the gallows.

Reports of the text used in Mr. Sawyer's discourse on that occasion do not agree. One witness stated that the text was the third verse of Chapter XX of the first Book of Samuel, "But truly, as the Lord liveth there is but a step between me and death." Another source insists that the text was the 19th verse of the XIth chapter of Proverbs, "So he that pursueth evil, pursueth it to his own death." Possibly both texts were used.

The first time the drop was sprung the murderer fell to the ground. The knot drew out of the end of the rope attached to the staple in the beam. He, despite his pleas, was again taken to the platform and this time the rope was tied so it held.

Joseph Damon was buried in

Fredonia, Martin died soon after the execution and North went to Canada. There have been

numerous stories of the skeleton of Joseph, none of them too pleasant to recall.

General John M. Schofield

Among the many persons who have gone out from this area and have become successful to the extent of being recognized as outstanding individuals is John McAllister Schofield. His conspicuous service in the Civil War and his advance to Secretary of War and to the rare rank of Lieutenant General of the United States Army prove his courage and ability.

Near the village of Sinclairville, in the Town of Gerry, John Schofield was born on Sept. 29, 1831, the son of Elder James Schofield, a Baptist minister, and the grandson of John McAllister, one of the very early settlers of that town and the owner of a large farm.

At the age of 18 years John became a cadet at West Point and upon being graduated from there in July 1853 he became a second lieutenant in the Artillery. His first duty was in South Carolina where he remained two years. In 1855 he returned to West Point where he was assistant professor of Natural and Experimental Philosophy. He was granted a leave of absence in 1860 to join the faculty of Washington University at St. Louis, Mo., occupying the chair of professor of Physics there for four years.

At the outbreak of the Civil War John Schofield served for a short time as mustering officer of the State of Missouri. He was then in the rank of captain and soon accepted a commission as major of the First Missouri Volunteers. At the Battle of Wilson's Creek, Mo., on Aug. 10, 1861, he displayed great ability as a soldier and for his unusual gallantry was awarded the Congressional

Medal of Honor. He held the position as Chief of Staff to Gen. Nathan Lyon. Three months later he was promoted to brigadier general of the U.S. Volunteers.

It was in 1864 that Gen. Schofield became commander of the Department of Missouri. Through his efforts Missouri and the border states were freed of guerilla warfare and the control of the Arkansas River was gained.

Gen. U. S. Grant requested that Gen. Schofield be placed in command of the Army of the Ohio which included about 20,000 men. These formed the left wing of Gen. Sherman's Army. Gen. Schofield participated in nearly all of the battles as far south as Atlanta. One of his great victories was that of defeating his former class mate, John B. Hood, the Confederate general, in the battle of Franklin, Tenn., on Nov. 30, 1864. Especially because of this success he became Brigadier General of the regular army.

While on his next assignment in North Carolina he took part in the capture of Fort Anderson and Wilmington in March 1865. During the same month he joined Gen. Sherman at Goldsboro, N. C. The following month he had charge of the surrender of Gen. Joseph Johnson at Durham, accepting the arms and equipment and paroling the prisoners.

Not only was Gen. Schofield a soldier and commander, but he also served on a diplomatic mission to France in which he was successful in solving a situation which might have caused trouble for the United States. When he returned in

1866 he was put in command of the Department of the Potomac and was located at Richmond, Va.

In 1876 this commander became Superintendent of the Military Academy at West Point where he served until 1881. He succeeded Stanton as Secretary of War in Johnson's and Grant's administrations. For six years he was the commanding general of the Pacific Coast. In 1888 he was made a major general and in 1895 a lieutenant

general, a rank which existed only at intervals in the U. S. Army. This high grade had been filled only by Washington Scott, Sherman and Sheridan.

John Schofield retired as lieutenant general and on March 4, 1906 he passed away in St. Augustine, Fla. and was buried with military honors in Arlington Cemetery, near Washington, D. C. And thus terminated the military career of one of the most distinguished men of our area.

Johnny Appleseed

Many of the early settlers of Western New York, including the Town of Pomfret, had apple orchards. Some of the pioneers are known to have brought apple seeds with them from the East and some of the orchards were a result of the kindness of a man known to many as Johnny Appleseed.

For many years people believed that Johnny Appleseed was a fictitious character and that the story of his life was a fairy tale. He was, however, a real man who shared hardships and lived among danger that he might prepare the way for those to come after him. He was a friend of settler and savage alike and for 50 years he brightened the lives of many with kind deeds, the greatest of these being the planting of apple seeds that the settlers might have the fruit. It was not unusual for a pioneer, when staking out a claim, to discover that an orchard had already been started there.

Johnny Appleseed, whose name was John Chapman, was the son of Nathaniel Chapman, and grandson of Edward Chapman who came from Scotland and settled near Boston in 1710. John was born on a little farm near Springfield, Mass., on May 11, 1768. He was graduated from

Harvard with honors.

It was during this time that the Swedenborgian Church was active. This denomination placed special emphasis on the spiritual connection of God with nature in every manifestation of life, man, bird and beast. John Chapman was intensely religious and became interested in this church and embraced its belief. At a conference of this church in Boston he was found to be well qualified to serve as a missionary. A young man by the name of Abraham Buckles was chosen to accompany him and with their certificates, indicating their appointment as ministers, they set forth to work along the Potomac River in Virginia.

In 1788, John, then 20 years of age, and his half-brother, Nathaniel, decided to go west. There was then great excitement about the land beyond the Allegheny Mountains. Reaching Pittsburgh after three weeks, they purchased an Indian canoe with the plan of paddling up the Allegheny River to find an uncle who had located at Olean, N. Y.

The uncle had moved on west so the men occupied his cabin. It was there that the great idea of helping the pioneers, was

born to John. He, in an effort to improve a badly neglected orchard in the area, found that there was no nursery from which to obtain seedlings. He determined then that in addition to serving as a Bible missionary, he would be an apple missionary. He planned to collect the pomace from the cider mills, wash out the seeds, put them in bags, and in the Spring plant them along the rivers, in the meadows and near the cabins, knowing that in a few years there would be hundreds of seedlings for the settlers.

John bought a small horse to help in transporting the bags of seeds from the cider mills. He was the victim of an accident in which he was struck on the forehead by the horse's heel—his recovery was slow and his mind seemed to wander a bit but he again was determined to continue his chosen work.

Johnny Appleseed sometimes carried the seeds by canoe and sometimes on his back, walking hundreds of miles. He finally established headquarters near Pittsburgh where the immigrants passed on their way to Ohio and Indiana. Often he traded trees for old clothing which accounted for his ill fitting garments, often faded and ragged. He frequently traveled bare footed. His black hair was allowed to grow until it fell to his shoulders and it was not often that he trimmed his beard. A strange picture this

strong man of 5 foot and 9 inches must have presented.

At his nursery on the land he purchased in 1796 he extended his effort to include seedlings of peaches, pears and plums in addition to his apples.

Johnny Appleseed was always welcome in the cabins and homes. He was an entertaining man with many stories, each of which had a moral. He was never seen without his Bible. A strick vegetarian he expressed his belief concerning this, "When God made the animals he breathed into them the breath of life and that was divine, and for me to deprive an animal of that life seems like offending God."

With no thought of gain for himself, John Chapman lived with the Indians and the Whites, taught school, preached at meetings and funerals and pursued his self appointed work.

It was around 1802 when the settlers were moving into Western New York that he visited this section realizing that orchards would be needed. We have no way of measuring the amount of help he was to our own settlers here but judging from his great efforts it must have been considerable.

John Chapman's death occurred March 11, 1847 at the age of 79 years, at the home of William Worth near Ft. Wayne, Ind., and his grave is in the Archer Cemetery about two miles from Ft. Wayne.

Bells

Bells today ring out the Old Year and ring in the New Year. They are used as a symbol throughout the entire Holiday Season. In a few areas of the United States they still announce the church meetings and the few remaining in rural schools summon the pupils to

classes.

In the pioneer days bells were very important, in fact they were quite necessary. They called the pupils to school, summoned people to meetings, church gatherings, weddings, funerals; they served as a call for volunteers to help fight

fires, and even kept the people informed of the correct time. As recently as 75 years ago the church bell was tolled to inform the community of the passing of a citizen, the number of times the bell was tolled indicating the age of the dying or departed person.

Of the many bells which, in the past, served in one capacity or another we know of some which have especially interesting histories. Without doubt many of these are now scattered and the present owners are unaware of the part they played in the early days.

There were the hand bells, probably 30 in all, which were collected from the neighbors and assembled for an entertainment in the nearby village of Sinclairville. This was in the days before there was an active Episcopal Church in the town. A Sunday School class had been organized and the meetings were held in a vacant room over the drug store. This particular entertainment was for the purpose of raising money as a nucleus of a fund to be used in a newly formed church.

Mrs. Stevens, who with her physician husband, Dr. Stevens, had recently located in Sinclairville, arranged the bells and instructed the young people in the art of bell ringing. The bells were carefully marked with the names of the owners, then they were placed in order as a key board of an organ. This first amateur exhibition of bell ringing was held during the Holiday Season and resulted in a fund which, for those days, was considered sizable.

Then there is the very interesting and historic bell which hangs in St. John's Episcopal Church at Ellicottville, and which may still be heard on Sunday mornings. This church was incorporated in 1829, and the church building was conse-

crated in 1838. The plan for the church was also used for the Episcopal Church in Olean and for Trinity Church in Fredonia, the latter being built of brick and the other two of wood.

When St. John's was erected it had no bell, but the bell which eventually was hung there was cast in Spain in 1708 during the reign of Phillip V of Spain and while Anne was Queen of England. A man named Bargas cast the bell for a monastery on the outskirts of Malaga. Around the shoulder of the bell appeared the words, "ABE SOI LABOS DEL ANGEL QUE EN ALTO SUENA MARIA GRACIA PLENA," meaning "Hail (I am the voice of the angel who sounds on high) Mary, full of grace." Because it was the angel Gabriel who so saluted Mary, the bell was known as Gabriel.

A second inscription, below the first, told by whom, where and when the bell was cast: "BARGAS MEFECI MALAGA 1708." On the waist of the bell was a cross with a triangular base, each being composed of little squares bearing a design suggesting a cross. Pointing inward toward the end of each arm of the cross and on the right side pointing toward the junction of the cross with its base was a nail at each of the three places mentioned. For 127 years this bell rang the Angelus three times a day.

In 1833, upon the death of Ferdinand VII, seven years of civil war began. During the outbreak against the monasteries in 1835 the monastery where Gabriel hung was attacked, the building was captured and many of its defenders were killed — during the sally one of the monks rang Gabriel constantly as an alarm. The monk was killed while still grasping the rope. The building was blown

up and Gabriel lay among the ruins.

A master of a sailing vessel obtained the bells to use as ballast while he hoped to sell them. Nicholas Devereux, when visiting New York City in 1837, called on the ship master, an old acquaintance, who was then in Port. Mr. Devereux obtained an option on one of the bells, knowing that the church at Ellicottville was being built.

By the time the \$125 was raised to purchase the bell she had

started on another journey across the Atlantic. In 1838 she returned to New York, was sent up the Hudson and over the Erie Canal to Buffalo. There she was met by Abraham Searle, the sheriff of Cattaraugus County, and John Hurlbut who with two teams of oxen transported her to Ellicottville. A clapper was made by William Beecher in his shop and Gabriel, weighing nearly a ton, was raised with great difficulty to the place she has occupied these many years.

Peddlers

The early housewife welcomed the peddlers as they traveled through the towns and settlements with their wares and supplies for the home. Because of limited transportation of those days these calls were a matter of great convenience. In the 18th Century this custom of selling and bartering goods from home to home was a common practice in European countries. The remote sections of northern England depended largely upon the peddler with his huge pack of supplies slung over his shoulders. This custom, carried on in the Old Country many years before our settlement, was looked upon with favor in our new rapidly growing country.

There has been considerable argument and discussion as to the origin of the word "peddler" and as to its spelling. The early peddler of this country listed his profession as "pedler" and we note in the DeWitt Clinton report of the survey made in New York State before the Erie Canal was built, the word was spelled "pedlar."

The spelling in the Webster Dictionary appears "peddler." If the title was derived from the Latin word "ped," as we suppose, it indicates that these early salesmen traveled on

foot, as we know they did. Since most of those in this new country were from New England or the Eastern States they were often termed "Yankee Peddlers."

This vocation was divided into specialized branches; for in addition to the general peddler who carried lamp wicks, shoe strings, combs and a variety of notions, there was the tin peddler, the peddler of spices and the peddler of essences. The people in the early towns were eager for essence of peppermint, bergamot, spruce, and wintergreen. Many of these were considered remedies for physical disorders. Also at the door appeared the broom peddler and many other specialists, each carrying his particular type of wares.

Peddlers were not held in high esteem as were the merchants who were considered to be engaged in a more dignified occupation. Most of the peddlers were honest, although as in all walks of life, occasionally a housewife was deceived as to her purchase. Such was the case as a local elderly lady recalled, when she received wooden nutmegs from the spice box instead of the real product from East India.

Many young men found their

way West traveling in the capacity of peddlers. They rarely experienced difficulty in bartering a small amount of their stock for a dinner or for a night's lodging.

With the completion of the Erie Canal in 1825 a new kind of peddling was introduced in New York State. Boats were conveniently fitted out for carrying a variety of yard goods and notions. These floating stores or peddling boats traveled slowly through the canal stopping wherever there seemed an opportunity to dispose of some stock.

The boat peddlers often supplied the merchants with goods at wholesale prices. If they could not get cash for their goods they accepted native goods which they bartered on their return trip to larger cities, where they, in turn, received more shop goods and notions for their next trip. They sometimes carried very cheap goods which, of course, they sold for less than the small town merchant could do, thus hurting the merchant since he could not compete with them as to price.

It was necessary for the canal boat peddler to have a capital to start his business while the spice peddlers could start business with a few bottles in a tin spice case.

Meanwhile, the house-to-house peddler graduated to a horse and conveyance, still, however, being called a peddler. The wagon which he used was sometimes large enough to accommodate a variety of needs such as lamps, books, clocks, cooking utensils and even sheets and pillow cases in addition to yard goods and notions. It was some time later that in our town, in addition to these early peddlers, the peddling butcher and milk man, each with his own delivery wagon, put in an appearance. The meat was cut in the wagon and the milk was measured by means of a long handled quart cup being dipped into a large can of milk. This amount was then transferred to the container of the housewife.

There are several lamps, clocks and other antiques in our town which the owners tell us were purchased many years ago from peddlers on their trips through Pomfret.

James J. Strang

Among the many persons who have gone forth from Chautauqua and gained prominence in one way or another was James Jesse Strang. This young man, embracing the Mormon faith nearly 120 years ago, became an absolute monarch of a kingdom for six years.

The paternal grandfather of this local man was Gabriel Strang, a Revolutionary soldier, who had served as a private in the 13th Regiment from Albany County. The father of James, Clement Strang, emigrated to Chautauqua County and purchased land from the Holland Land Co. in the Town of Han-

over. He lived from 1788 to Dec. 31, 1880. It is of interest that these Strang men were descendants of Henry DeL' Strange who accompanied the Duke of York on his expedition to the conquest of New Amsterdam.

A relative of the family states that the name of **James J. Strang** was actually Jesse James Strang and that he and the famous outlaw of that name were descended from a common ancestor a few generations back. He also tells us that James Strang's mother was Abigail James who was a descendant of Roger Williams and Oliver Cromwell.

James Strang, born March 21, 1813, spent his childhood on a farm in the Town of Hanover. There was a brother two years older and a sister five years younger. We note that the mother and father were among the founders of the Forestville Baptist Church which was established in 1817 with 30 members.

After attending the Forestville Academy for a short time James studied law with a local attorney and was soon admitted to the bar. He has been described as a "keen and ready debater and a brilliant and entrancing orator."

While practicing law in Ellington he became the postmaster there serving until February 1842. He also edited and published a newspaper for a few years.

At the age of 30, having served as lawyer, teacher, publisher and postmaster, James Strang left Chautauqua County and located at Burlington, Wis., where his wife's brother lived. There in 1844 he formed a partnership with Judge C. . Barnes.

While on a visit to Nauvoo, Ill., James Strang met Joseph Smith who at that time was a powerful figure in the life of the Mormons. They became close friends and on Feb. 25, 1844 James was baptized in the Mormon faith and six days later was ordained as an elder of the monarch. He "was authorized by Smith to plant a stake for Zion in Mormonism." It was but about four months later, on June 27, that Joseph Smith was assassinated.

Upon the news of the death

James Strang immediately stated his claim to the succession to Smith as leader of the Mormon Church. His claim was based upon a letter supposedly written to Strang by Mr. Smith, the letter in Joseph Smith's handwriting and postmarked Nauvoo June 18, 1844. It was received and bore the postmark of Burlington July 9, 1844. Between these two dates Joseph Smith had died.

There were, at that time, but two men in the Mormon Church who possessed qualifications for successful leadership, Brigham Young and James Strang. Nine of the 12 apostles of the Mormon Church favored Brigham Young, claiming that the letter was a forgery.

Mr. Strang was excommunicated from the church. He then organized a colony and located on Beaver Island, the largest island in Lake Michigan. In 1850 the city of St. James was made the permanent headquarters and during the annual convention, held in July 1850 by Strang's followers, the community was recognized as a "kingdom" with Strang as "king." For six years he ruled this Mormon Colony.

On June 16, 1856 as he was about to board the steamer Michigan, at anchor at Beaver Island Harbor, he was shot by two of his rebellious subjects who were angry because they had been deposed from office in the church. James Strang's followers then scattered. The body of this strong but refined man was laid to rest in an unmarked grave.

Woman's Christian Temperance Union

Among the outstanding events recorded in the history of America's 19th Century appears the "Woman's Crusade," a movement organized with the ob-

jective of stopping the sale of intoxicating liquor.

To Fredonia is accorded the honor of inaugurating this work. In the Fredonia Baptist Church

is a tablet which was unveiled on the 48th anniversary of the occasion by Miss Aura Gordon, who at that time was the World and National President of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

The inscription on the tablet is: "In this Church on Dec. 15, 1873, 208 crusaders met, organized and became the First Woman's Christian Temperance Union of the World. Erected by the Crusade Union of Fredonia, Dec. 15, 1921."

This movement was inspired by a lecture delivered in Fredonia by Dr. Dio Lewis of Boston on Dec. 13, 1873 and which was received with great enthusiasm.

Upon an invitation of the Good Templars the speaker remained over to give another address on the following Saturday evening at a union service. The audience was large and the speaker's arguments were impressive. He presented the truth with force and his suggested plans of procedure met with a favorable response. Dr. Lewis outlined a plan which he had observed as effective in his home town.

The Rev. Lester Williams, pastor of the Fredonia Baptist Church, invited all interested women to hold a meeting for the purpose of organizing. Fifty women quickly responded and a committee was appointed to draw up an appeal to be presented to the proprietors of the liquor stores and taverns. Among the members of that committee we note familiar names: Mrs. A. L. Benton, Mrs. Dr. Fuller and Mrs. J. P. Armstrong, Jr. A meeting was called for Monday morning at 10 o'clock in the Baptist Church at which time the appeal was submitted and accepted and the work inaugurated.

About 300 men and women

assembled for the meeting at the appointed hour. The women, retiring to a room below, organized for work and arranged a line of march. The men, meanwhile, guided by prayer, planned for carrying on the work. Twenty-three of them subscribed the necessary percentage of \$1,000 each, for continuing the movement.

The following names appear on that list: John Hamilton, Jr., Geo. W. Lewis, Dr. E. M. Pettit, Alva Colburn, C. L. Mark, Geo. H. White, Alex. Morian, Dr. Dio Lewis, H. R. Sanford, Rev. L. Williams, Jr., Rev. A. L. Benton, E. Davis, S. S. Crissey, Rev. R. F. Randolph, G. N. Frazine, Otis Hall, G. C. Hutchinson, Frank Pier, Orrin Doolittle, J. M. Tiffany & Son, L. A. Barimore, O. Stiles and B. F. Skinner.

The procession of over 100 women marched forth from the Baptist Church. It comprised the wives of Fredonia's most respected citizens, revered matrons and also young women.

The group was led by Mrs. Judge Barker and Mrs. Lester Williams. Their first call was to the Taylor House (the hotel standing on the site of the present Russo building). The proprietors, Messrs. M.H., W.W., and D. Taylor were all present to hear Mrs. Barker announce the object of their call, which was to cease the sale of intoxicating liquors. Mrs. Williams then read the appeal:

"In the name of God and humanity, we make our appeal: Knowing as we do, that the sale of intoxicating liquors is the parent of every misery, prolific in all woe, in this life and in the next, potent alone in evil, blighting every fair hope, desolating families, the chief incentive to crime, these, the mothers, wives and daughters, representing the moral and religious sent-

iment of our town. to save the loved members of our household from the temptations of strong drink, from acquiring an appetite for it and to rescue, if possible. those that have already acquired it, do earnestly request that you will pledge yourself to cease the traffic here in those drinks forthwith and forever. We will also add the hope that you will abolish your gaming tables."

A hymn was sung and the Lord's Prayer repeated in unison, Mrs. Tremaine, a greatly respected woman, then followed with an impressive prayer fitting the occasion.

Mr. Taylor, the manager, was asked by Mrs. Barker if he would not accede to their appeal. His reply was that he believed in temperance, did not drink himself but felt obliged to keep liquor in his hotel. He finally agreed, however, that, "If the rest will close their places I'll close mine—I mean the drug stores too."

On the day the crusaders visited the Taylor House, seven other calls were made and each following day during that week the procedure was repeated.

These courageous and determined women were not always received with a welcome. One dealer, becoming very annoyed, refused to allow the women to enter his establishment. However, their effort was not in vain for they succeeded in having one hotel close its bar and one druggist agreed to sell no more intoxicants to be used as beverage.

It was decided that in order to be assured of a more effective and lasting result of their work, it would be necessary to form a permanent organization. For that purpose a meeting was held on Dec. 21. The 208 persons present at the meeting became charter members of the organi-

zation, all of them signing the Pledge:

"We, the undersigned women of Fredonia, feeling that God has laid upon us a work to do for temperance, do hereby pledge ourselves to united and continuous effort to suppress the traffic in intoxicating liquors in our village until this work be accomplished; and that we will stand ready for united effort upon any renewal of the traffic. We will also do what we can to alleviate the woes of drunkards' families, and to rescue from drunkenness those who are pursuing its ways."

The official name for the organization adopted at this meeting was "The Woman's Christian Temperance Union." Thus was the wonderful movement called "The Crusade" begun, and the first local Woman's Christian Temperance Union organized.

A similar organization in Jamestown and one in Hillsboro, O., closely followed the Fredonia group. A report states that within 50 days, 250 saloons were closed in the villages and towns, and Unions sprang up all over New York State.

The plan for a State organization was promoted at the Chautauqua Assembly in 1874. Just 11 months after the Fredonia Crusade the organizing convention was held in Cleveland with 18 states represented, and there Miss Francis Willard founded the World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

On June 29, 1882 representatives of the local unions in Chautauqua County met in Jamestown and formed a county organization. The first president of this group was a Fredonia woman affectionately known as "Mother McNeil." She served as president of the Fredonia Union 1 from 1877 to 1895 and then was made honorary president, and as president of the county

she served in 1882-83 and in 1884-1885.

Mrs. Esther Lord McNeil, this great local Crusader, was born in Carlisle, Schoharie County, N. Y. in 1813. When but 10 years old her father died, leaving 10 children. In 1832 she was married to James McNeil and together they determined to fight the liquor menace.

It was in 1868 that they moved to Fredonia, bringing with them eight homeless children (they had none of their own). Also they cared for five children of her brother, the Rev. Edward C. Lord, a missionary. It is stated that Mrs. McNeil made a home for a total of 18 children. Her husband died two years after reaching Fredonia. She lived until April 20, 1906, passing away at the age of 95.

In the West Barker Common, Fredonia, is a drinking fountain erected and dedicated in 1912 to the memory of Mrs. McNeil. Another fountain in this interest is located in the corridor of Willard Hall in the Woman's Temple at Chicago. This was erected at a cost of more than \$1,000 and is inscribed, "Chautauqua County, N. Y., the birthplace of the W.C.T.U."

The work of this vast organization has spread throughout

the world. Missionaries have been sent out with the gospel temperance message. Emphasis has been placed upon work among children. the study of laws of health, rescue work and assistance in sustaining the "Rescue Homes" of the state organization. The Chautauqua County Union made great efforts to secure a state law requiring scientific temperance instruction in public schools. The law was passed in 1884.

We must not overlook the fact that in 1829 there had begun a temperance reform in the county, and that year the "Chautauqua County Temperance Society" was organized at Mayville, so we know there was interest in this problem previous to the great Crusade in Fredonia. However, it was the Crusade and the organization of the Union 1 which has given Fredonia the honor of being the birthplace of this vast movement.

A result of the Fredonia group, which is of outstanding local significance, was the institution of the "Holly-Tree" reading room planned for wholesome recreation, entertainment and reading for the people of the village. This eventually developed into the D.R. Barker Library.

An Erie Canal Celebration

One of the greatest events in the New World was the construction of the Grand Erie Canal. At its opening to the public in October, 1825, there were many celebrations in honor of the completion of this remarkable feat. The value of this waterway to the development of the country was recognized throughout New York State and the celebrations were not confined to the settlements along the

canal. The most impressive observance in our area was the one held at Mayville on Oct. 26 when people gathered from miles about to celebrate the event.

Major Joy Handy was marshal of the day, leading the procession which was headed by the supervisors followed by other citizens. The parade proceeded to the public square. There a national salute was

fired under the direction of Major Asahel Lyon of the Artillery. The cannon whose thunderous roar shook the heavens that day was one which was taken from the British on Lake Erie by the gallant Commander Perry. On this occasion the cannon announced the triumph of the joining of the waters of Lake Erie, on which it had served, with the Hudson River and the ocean, and the fulfillment of a great task undertaken for the commercial development of the country.

A supper was held at J. Tracy's that evening and there the supervisors and many prominent citizens gathered to continue the celebration. Acting as president of the group was Thomas Prendergast of Ripley and Abiram Orton, Pomfret, vice-president.

The toasts which were proposed that evening reflect the enthusiasm over the enormous feat completed in spite of great difficulties, the hope of additional canals and roads, and a pride in the state and country. Some of the toasts are repeated here:

By Seth Snow, Esq. of Hanover—The Grand Canal: may it not stop at Buffalo or Ohio, but may it continue until it reaches the shores of the Pacific Ocean.

By T. B. Campbell, Esq. of Portland—The waters of Chautauqua Lake impatiently waiting to be united with those of the Grand Canal.

By W. Peacock, Esq. of Mayville—The Grand Erie Canal, the stream of gold for New York; projected by patriots, supported by wisdom, completed by freemen and a practical demonstration of despotic governments, of the spirit and enterprise of a great people.

By William Green, Esq. of Mayville—This is the wedding day of the old bachelor, the

Hudson River, to the old maid, Lake Erie. May their first offspring be a canal from Chautauqua Lake to Lake Erie.

By J. Tracy, Esq. of Mayville—The wedding parties, and the priest who married them.

By I. Guernsey, Esq. of Buffalo—The State of New York, while she holds a proud pre-eminence in the union, may she ever respect the rights and appreciate the friendship and favor of her sister states.

By Dr. E. P. Stedman of Mayville—The Constitution of the State of New York, may it ever be secure from the intrigues of factionists, and the artifices of party demagogues.

By Villeroy Balcom, Esq. of Villenova—"A hard trotting horse and a porcupine saddle" for the enemies of internal improvement.

By N. Troup, Esq. of Mina — The State Road, may its completion afford the advantages to the south that the canal ensures to the north.

By J. Hovey, Esq. of Mayville — Chautauqua County and its increasing population.

By Maj. Joy Handy of Mayville—The Grand Canal, an howitzer from whose broad calibre is vomited forth the riches of this western world.

By David Eaton, Esq. of Portland—Having waded through the Red Sea of opposition, and journeyed eight years through the Wilderness of conjecture, we have at length reached the Promised Land.

By T. A. Osborne of Mayville — Union by division—the State New York divided by water, united by interest—her march will be rapid to greatness and glory.

By Capt. John Adams of Mina — Hull and Perry: may the mingling of the waters on which they fought perpetuate the memory of their victories.

Lake Captains of Sheridan

In any study of the by-gone days we can glean a great deal of information from the files of the ancient newspapers, old pamphlets and various records and documents that have been scrupulously kept.

One of the astonishing facts thus discovered is that the Town of Sheridan, formed from Pomfret and Hanover April 16, 1827, is credited with having produced more lake captains who sailed the chain of the Great Lakes, than any other town of its size in the state. The fact that Sheridan had no lake port increases the mystery of the settlement having supplied more than 20 masters of some of the finest and largest vessels on the lakes.

The first sea captain discovered was Zephaniah Perkins who was attached to the lake marines in the War of 1812. About 1815, a schooner of 40 tons named "Kingbird" was built by Haven Brigham, son of the Revolutionary soldier, Jonathan Brigham, who brought his family to Sheridan in 1810.

The command of this boat was given to Zephaniah Perkins, a native of Vermont. Captain Perkins ran the Kingbird between Dunkirk and Buffalo, freighting her down with lumber from the Sheridan mill, and bringing her back loaded with merchandise and other goods for the people of Fredonia and Dunkirk. He was known to be a man of great courage and very trustworthy.

A story of Mr. Perkins which has been treasured is that of the time when he was a mate under Captain Fox and a disagreement arose between the two men as to the handling of Captain Fox's vessel in a gale. The captain ran her into Cattaraugus Creek for safety. Per-

kins, considering this course extremely dangerous, forced Captain Fox into the hold and, putting the vessel out to sea, rode out the gale safely. There are other family tales of the great courage of Captain Perkins.

We note that these early captains were comparatively young. In 1831 George Reed, then but 25, was captain of the schooner "Beaver." Five years later we find Almon Robinson, 26, master of the schooner "Luther Wright." Hiram Chapman, born in 1810, now at the age of 30, was master of the "Atlantic" and in 1844 Theron Chapman was, at 28 years of age, master of the "Aetna." Joseph Frey when 30 was in command of the "Juliette." John Reed in 1842 had the "John Grant" command and in 1844 Reuben Rork was master of the "Alps."

In 1840 David Fisk was master of the "Henry Roop" and A. W. Reed in 1859 was in command of the "Richard Mott" running between Buffalo and Chicago. We find M. M. Drake in 1861, then aged 25, master of the propeller, "Genessee Chief" traveling between Buffalo and Erie, and Henry H. Reed master of the bark "Levi Rawson" between Buffalo and Chicago. A. B. Drake was in command of the "Owego" between Buffalo and Toledo. In 1872 Walter Robinson, then 28, was serving as master of the propeller "Olean" and B. F. Borthwick master of the schooner, "F.A. Georger."

Delos Waite in 1881 was in command of the steamer "Empire State" making trips between Buffalo and Duluth. Will Borthwick when 28 years of age, was in command of the propeller, "George S. Hazzard" between Buffalo and Chicago, and master of the steamer "M. M. Drake" was Nelson Robinson and in

1895 Frank B. Huyck, then 36, was master of the steamer, "New York."

It is impossible to record here the history of each of these seafaring men, although they are all equally interesting. One captain whose name has long been associated with Sheridan was Joseph Grandall Doty. When 31 years of age we find him as master of the schooner "William Buckley."

Joseph Doty was born in Sidney, N. Y. on Feb. 7, 1820 to William Doty and Lucinda Chapman Doty who moved to Sheridan that year and took up a tract of land a short distance east of the present Sheridan Center. He was the youngest son in a family of 11 children and was a direct descendant of the Edward Doty who came to

America in the first voyage of the Mayflower.

Joseph Doty was first married to Cynthia Cook. A few years after her death he married Martha Chapman, daughter of William Chapman and Lydia Mark Chapman. At the age of 16 Joseph left home to follow the Lakes, with all his possessions tied in a handkerchief. From 1836 to 1861 he lived on the Lakes, serving in all capacities, and as master for 10 years. After spending some time in Michigan and Ohio he returned to Sheridan where he spent his last days. His life ended June 27, 1904.

As we glance at the names of these heroic men we realize they were sons of Revolutionary soldiers and we recognize that it was from these ancestors they inherited their courage.

More About the Gas Marker

The boulder here in Fredonia, which marks the site of the first gas well in the United States, has for years drawn students of history and tourists to our village. Recently, considerable local attention has been exhibited and questions asked about the marker, the placing of it, and as to the responsibility of the care of the village plot upon which it rests.

The undertaking of the marking of this historic site was initiated and completed by the Benjamin Prescott Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. (The marking of historic sites is one of the objectives of this patriotic organization). This endeavor required a great deal of planning, much effort and sincere cooperation.

The committee members of the local chapter of the D.A.R. for this particular plan were Mrs. Daniel Reed, Mrs. Ella

Crocker and Mrs. Ernest Eddy. Their problems were many: the discovery of a native rock large enough to suitably hold a bronze plaque which would be visible from the road; the transportation of the boulder; the selection of a site on firm ground as near as possible to the exact location of the original gas well; the erection of a wall to retain the earth of the plot; a deep solid foundation upon which to have the boulder placed and the preparation of a bronze plaque.

Congressman Daniel Reed became intensely interested when he found a native boulder was the wish of the committee. He asked the privilege of procuring one for the purpose and so it was he who found, in Sheridan, the rock which now stands as the monument.

Since the gas was used for illumination on the occasion of General LaFayette's visit, and

since General LaFayette's visit here was of unusual importance to the community and to the local Revolutionary soldiers who had served with the General, the society deemed it most fitting that the marker be unveiled upon the occasion of the 100th anniversary of his visit to Fredonia. Thus, on June 4, 1925, the boulder, bearing the bronze plaque, was dedicated.

The exercises were opened with a march played on an historic drum by Purdy Monroe. The invocation was given by the Rev. Walter Henricks of the First Presbyterian Church of Fredonia. Following the salute to the flag and the singing of America a welcome was extended by the principal of the Fredonia High School, Mr. Claude R. Dye.

The dedicatory address was delivered by Mrs. Charles White Nash of Albany, State Regent of the D.A.R. Mrs. Nash, in referring to the value of placing markers, preserving buildings and recalling events of the past through ceremonies, said that this is laudable in itself but especially in that it develops a realization of human progress which should bring an appreciation to each generation of what it owes to its predecessors. The speaker stated that in America we often fail to realize how much our development has depended on natural resources although now there are movements toward conservation of these resources and to prevent waste.

Mrs. Nash added, "It is such a reminder that this boulder is intended to be. It is not for the purpose of bringing glory to Fredonia, already known for noteworthy deeds, but it is to erect a monument to one of America's endowments and as a lesson that to carry forward the progress of

the world it is necessary to preserve the practical means for achievement and progress."

Following the unveiling and the singing of America the Beautiful, a short address was given by Dr. H. G. Burdge, principal of the Fredonia Normal School. A flag drill was then presented.

The marker was presented to the village by the regent of the local D.A.R. Chapter, Mrs. Grace H. Gardiner, and in the absence of Mr. Arthur Maytum, village president, was accepted by Mr. William Hart, acting president.

The committee expressed their gratitude to the following persons who, through their cooperation and patriotic service, made possible the completion of the marking of the site: Mr. Arthur Maytum, village president; Edward N. Button, supervisor of the Town of Pomfret; William Hart, acting president; Gerald Dorman, Albert Mau and E. H. Derby who built the retaining wall, filled and graded the site; William Massman, of Sheridan, who donated the boulder; Milton Bell, Sheridan highway commissioner, who with his men moved the boulder from Sheridan; Joseph Pegano, Sheridan, who gave large trees to make the skid to carry the boulder; John Sardeson, who built the cement foundation. Also P. H. Goggin and Harry Salhoff who gave seven barrels of cement for the foundation and to Charles E. Miller who gave five loads of gravel for the foundation; H. T. Bleck who placed the tablet on the boulder; Roy Crowell and James Gibson who cleaned and polished the stone; George Ostrander who gave fertilizer and grass seed, and to Milton Roesch, William Hart of the Hubbard Co. and John H. Foster of the Foster Nursery for shrubbery to decorate the site.

Another Brave Man

Some of the many harrowing experiences of the settlers of Western New York have been told and retold, a few have been recorded and the accounts accurately preserved. These narratives reveal a true picture of the conditions of those times, including the limited conveniences of the people and the meager protection afforded them; also they often disclose examples of courage.

An occurrence in which a Portland, N. Y., man, Duff Brown, was the hero, was as exciting and thrilling as any story seen today on the television.

Until crude oil was conveyed through pipes to the refineries there were trains of petroleum cars on each of which was mounted upright wooden cisterns. Later metal oil tanks replaced the wooden containers. These oil cars were constantly passing over the railroads from the oil sections to the refineries.

Duff Brown was an engineer on the Buffalo Corry and Erie or Pittsburgh Railway. The track between Prospect or Mayville Summit and the Brocton Junction was so crooked that while the distance actually is but 10 miles the curves made it 14 by rail. The grade for the whole distance was over 70 feet to a mile.

It was about 9 o'clock on the night of Aug. 17, 1869 (this date was given by Duff Brown in an interview during his last illness) when Duff Brown reached the Summit with a train of two passenger cars, six oil cars with wooden cisterns, and a box car. The box car contained two valuable trotting horses belonging to Loren Sessions of Harmony and their keepers with them on their way to Cleveland. There were 50 or 60 passengers aboard the cars.

Upon receiving from the conductor the signal to start, Mr. Brown pulled out. After getting under considerable headway he looked back and discovered that the oil car in the middle of the train was on fire. He immediately reversed his engine and whistled for brakes. The conductor and brakeman, jumping off, uncoupled the passenger cars and set the brakes on them, bringing them to an abrupt stop.

Supposing that the brakes on the oil car would also be set, the engineer called to the brakeman on the box car to draw the coupling pin between that and the head oil tank car, backing so that he could do this, intending to run far enough away to save the box car and locomotive.

To the engineer's horror, as he ran down the hill, after the pin had been drawn, he saw that the burning cars were following him at a rapidly increasing speed, the brakeman not having been able to put on the brakes.

Mr. Brown realized that there was no alternative than to "make a run for it" to Brocton. Yet, with the limited speed always considered necessary to make the reverse curves, there was slight chance of succeeding. By this time all six cars were afire and flaming and but a few feet away. Although the engineer pulled the throttle open, the oil cars landed with full force against the box car, crushing in the end, knocking the horses and their keepers to the floor.

The heat was terrific as there were at least 50,000 gallons of oil in those tanks and all on fire. The flames were leaping into the air nearly 100 feet, and now and then a tank would explode—showers of burning oil scattering about in the woods

and lighting up the whole country for miles about.

Train No. 8, the Cincinnati Express, was due at the Brocton Junction about the time the flaming train would reach there. The last hope of Engineer Brown was that the switchman at the Junction would be far sighted enough to open the switch there, connecting the cross-cut track with the Lake Shore track and thus letting Mr. Brown run in on the latter where the grade would be against them and where they could get out of the way of the oil cars.

The switch would be closed now for the Express and the last hope was gone unless the Cincinnati train was late or unless someone was thoughtful enough to flag it. As this was passing through the engineer's mind the Express drew into sight racing along toward the

Junction. The fireman advised, "Whistle for the switch." This the engineer did.

The engineer on the Express train, seeing the fire, whistled for brakes on his train and the Express was brought to a stand, not 10 feet away from the switch. The Lake Shore freight train had gained the siding when Duff's locomotive tore past the depot and shot out on the Lake Shore track.

The momentum which the run-away cars had gained coming down was overcome by the ascending grade of the Lake Shore Road and they gradually came to a stop where they burned for hours about a mile from the Junction. Duff Brown's engine and box car stopped about two miles up the Lake Shore tracks. The horses were destroyed and the horsemen found unconscious in the box car.

Forest Lodge

Pomfret and Fredonia have the honor of having many "firsts." One of these is the first Masonic Lodge to be organized in Chautauqua County.

Among the pioneers who located in and near Canadaway (now Fredonia) previous to 1814, were many who were affiliated with the Free Masons. Masonry had been introduced into New York State early in the 18th Century and in 1805 there were about 100 lodges in the State. However, there were none in the western counties until the establishment of the Western Star No. 239 in Buffalo in 1814.

Many of the statesmen of the Revolutionary War period and the majority of the officers of the American army were Masons. Therefore, since many of our first settlers here had served in the War and even more of them were sons of

soldiers, it is not surprising that such a bond should have existed between them.

These settlers, united through this personal interest and desire to further the objectives of the Masonic organization, although a distance of miles and poor trails separated some of them, must have held informal gatherings.

It was at a formal meeting, however, held on March 17, 1815 at the home of Jacob Houghton, situated on the corner of West Main and Summer Streets, that an agreement was reached to petition for a warrant to form a Lodge in the Town of Pomfret. This was to be known as Forest Lodge, a name most fitting when one recalls the forest and uncleared condition of this section of this country.

The 21 names signed to the petition are of men who were actively associated with the early

planning and development of this area. The signers were: Asa Hall, Joseph Sackett, Samuel Berry, Seth Snow, David Barnes, Isaac Pierce, Ebenezer Johnson, Samuel Sinclair, Jonathan Sprague, Samuel Tinker, Jacob Houghton, Martin Eastwood, Augustus Klumph, Jon'n Sloan, Elisha Foster, David Eaton, M. Thompson, Eliphalet Dewey Jr. Daniel S. White, Robert Peebles and Richard Williams.

A charter dated June 11, 1816 was granted by the Grand Lodge to Forest Lodge No. 263. The Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York, the Hon. De Witt Clinton, appointed Phineas Stephens of LeRoy Lodge to install the officers and constitute Forest Lodge.

The following officers were installed on July 24, 1816 at a meeting held at Jacob Houghton's home: Ebenezer Johnson, worshipful master; Samuel Sinclair, senior warden; Jonathan Sprague, junior warden; Eliphalet Dewey, treasurer; Seth Snow, secretary, and Daniel Barnes, tiler.

It was decided that the meetings for one year would be held at Eliphalet Dewey's home and that they should be held on the Wednesday preceding the new moon in every month.

On Sept. 20, 1820 a committee composed of Past Worshipful Master Leverett Barker, Philo Orton, Hezekiah Turner, William Wallace and Walter Smith was appointed to arrange for the acquiring of a Lodge Room. The building was located on part of the land now occupied by buildings at 9 and 11 East Main Streets, according to data gathered by the late Dr. A. Wilson Dods.

In 1826 an event occurred outside this county which brought great consternation to all. The "Morgan Affair" caused division of churches, estrangement of families and broken friendships.

Politicians, seizing the opportunity, erected a political party which helped to keep the flame of hatred kindled. Thus the act of a few misguided individuals caused resentment and hatred to focus upon the Masonic organizations. Many chapters and lodges surrendered their charters but the principles of Freemasonry were kept alive and wherever possible their acts of charity and helpfulness were continued.

In the Spring of 1850 a petition was presented to the Grand Lodge for a charter to form a new Lodge in the Town of Pomfret, the Village of Fredonia. Eight of the 12 signers were members of the original Lodge. On June 8, 1850 Charter No. 166 was granted and on Aug. 22, 1850 the officers were installed.

A matter of great historic interest occurred at a meeting of the Grand Lodge in May 1916, when an endorsement was made on Charter No. 166 by the Grand Secretary legally recognizing the continuous life of Forest Lodge from the granting of Charter No. 263 in 1816 through the trying years from 1832 to 1850. Thus, it was on Oct. 3, 1916, the nearest possible date to July 24, that the 100th anniversary of Forest Lodge was celebrated.

Forest Lodge No. 166 also has the distinction of having conducted three public functions—the laying of the cornerstones of three buildings in Fredonia. At the request of the Village they laid the cornerstone of the original building of the Fredonia Normal School Aug. 8, 1867. On June 11, 1890, also at the request of the Village, the cornerstone of the Village Hall was laid by them. And it was on Oct. 3, 1901 that Forest Lodge performed the laying of the cornerstone of the new Fredonia State Normal School, this at the request of the Local Board of the State Normal School.

The Fredonia Academy Pledge

The pioneers of Western New York entered upon the task of clearing their land and erecting their cabins under circumstances which tested their self-reliance to the degree of heroism. In 1821 money was still very scarce but the determination for education of their children was great in the hearts of these settlers, so great that they were willing to give of their time and efforts to the point of extreme sacrifice to gain this end.

The seriousness and the sincerity of the citizens in the Town of Pomfret in their plan to construct an Academy is so evident in their pledge which they signed when agreeing to contribute in the vast undertaking of establishing this, the first Academy in Western New York.

The pledge follows:

"We, the subscribers, having it in contemplation to build a house, which shall answer the purposes of an Academy and a Presbyterian meeting house, and which shall stand on or within 20 rods of the place where the school house on the northerly side of the Canadaway Creek, in the Village of Fredonia, now stands, do hereby, for value received, severally and respectively and not jointly, promise and agree to pay and deliver to Leverett Barker and Thomas G. Abell, such sum or sums of money or other thing or things as are or shall contract.

The materials for the building of the said house, if any be subscribed by us, to be delivered on the place where the said house is to stand, by the first day of September next. The money or other property by us subscribed except materials as aforesaid, to be delivered to the said Leverett Barker and Thomas G. Abell, or either of them, in the Village of Fredonia, in 60 days after the same shall be demanded, provided that such demands shall not be made before

the first day of December next.

"The size, plan and form of the said house to be ascertained and fixed by a majority of the subscribers to this paper, who shall attend a meeting for that purpose, pursuant to a notice published in the Chautauqua Gazette two weeks previous to said meeting, provided however that the said house shall not be less than 36 feet by 50 feet. And we do hereby severally and respectively authorize and empower the said Leverett Barker and Thomas G. Abell, in their own names, to commence, prosecute and maintain suits or actions at law against us, respectively, to compel a performance of their contract or to recover damages for a breach of it.

"March 16, 1821."

The subscribers were as follows;

Oliver Barnes—\$15 in grain, \$10 in team work.

Henry Durkee—\$10 in grain, \$10 in white wood floor boards.

Leverett Barker—\$25 in money, \$50 in cattle and \$25 in leather.

M.W. & T.G. Abell—\$50 in work, \$50 in cattle, grain and material.

Squire White—\$10 in money, \$50 in cattle and grain.

John Crane—\$10 in money.

Uriah Wentworth—Nails or glass, \$10 in work.

Hiram Couch—\$5 in money, \$15 in grain.

Elisha Shepard—\$10 in labor.

Lemon Hill—\$5 in money, \$40 in chairs.

Sanford Greene—2 days labor.

Wm. Sage—\$25 in hats and shingles.

M.D. & J. Harmon—\$10 in labor, \$10 team work.

Adin Waite—\$15 in grain.

Henry Bosworth—\$10 money, \$10 grain.

Orris Crosby—\$20 in labor.

Erie Allen—\$15 grain.

Samuel Marsh \$40 grain, 6,000 clapboards.

Ephraim Marsh—\$15 grain.
Sam'l Marsh, Jr.—\$15 grain.
Wm. Loomis—3,000 feet floor plank.

Henry W. Gates—3 days' work.
Israel Loomis—\$30 grain,
2,000 feet lumber.

Fenner Ward—10 days' carpenter work.

Wm. Bond—1,000 feet lumber.
Sol Hinkley—300 pounds pork,
10 bushels corn and rye, 2 cwt. beef,
2,000 feet hemlock lumber.

W. Smith & Co.—\$15 in nails or glass,
\$15 in grain or cattle.

Wm. Loomis—2,000 feet lumber.

Israel Loomis—Work or lumber \$5.

Gilb. Douglass — \$5, \$10 in labor,
\$10 in lumber.

Eri Allen — work \$15.

Wood'd Stevens — 3 days work.

Thos. Gillis — \$10 in labor.

Knowles Hall — \$30 cabinet work.

Pears, Crosby, Jr. — \$10 cash.

Chelal Clark — \$5 cash.

Wm. Couch — \$5 labor.

Mark Stacy — 6 days work.

Fenner Ward — 10 days work.

A. Hart — \$10 in labor.

Geo. Hinkley — \$10 in labor and lumber,
\$20 in shoes.

Daniel Pier — \$20 in grain, team'g or stock.

James P. Holley — \$10 lumber.

Joshua Turner — \$10 in labor, grain or lumber.

Samuel Snow — team work \$15.

Isaac A. Lovejoy — \$40 in some kind of property.

Charles Burrett — 1 cow to be worth \$15.

Lyman Ross — 20 gallons whiskey.

Hezekiah W. Bull — ten bushels rye.

Walter Cushing — 2 days work drawing lumber.

Ottis Ensign — 2 tons hay.

Lacking materials with which to complete the lower floor of

the Academy another pledge was written Feb. 24, 1825 and this too, was signed by many subscribers. The pledge and list of subscribers follows here:

"We, the subscribers, promise, severally, to pay Leverett Barker the sums by us subscribed, for the purpose of finishing the lower story of the Academy in the village of Fredonia, to be paid by the first day of January next; said monies to be expended by the dictation of the Trustees of the Fredonia Academy, the overplus, if any, to be applied for purchasing apparatus for said institution."

Leverett Barker — lime and lumber — \$20.

Charles Burritt, in goods — \$5.

Edward H. Mulford, in brick — \$8.

John Z. Saxton, brick—\$5.

James Norton, joiner's work — \$5.

Matthew Greely, in grain—\$5.

H. McCluer, in grain—\$10.

N. H. Whitcomb, in shoes—\$5.

Seth Parker, in work or grain — \$5.

Richard Woleben, in work — \$5.

Stephen Porter, joiner's work — \$5.

William Mellen, lumber — \$5.

Ambrose Barnaby, in work — \$5.

Elijah Risley, Jr., in brick — \$5.

John Walker, in grain — \$5.

Thos. Gillis (order on J. Houghton) — \$5.

Pearson Crosby, Jr., joiner work — \$5.

Chelal Clark, joiner work — \$5.

Merritt M. Clark, work — \$5.

A. Bennet, 500 ft. pine boards — \$5.

Thos. Adams, in grain — \$5.

Morris Adams, in grain — \$5.

D. J. Mattison, 2000 lath—\$10.

James Mullet, grain or joiner

work — \$5.

Hezekiah Turner, in store pay — \$5.

Squire White, in grain — \$5.

E. Webster, in my work or joiner work — \$3.

Daniel Pier, in store pay — \$2.50.

M. W. & T. G. Abell, labor & Store pay — \$10.

Field Dalee, 2d, paid in goods — \$3.

Orris Crosby, grain or store pay — \$5.

Todd & Douglass, store pay — \$10.

Smith & Farnham, store pay

— \$10.

B. Patton, store pay — \$5.

Gilbert Douglass, in something — \$5.

Thos. Warren, — \$5.

Orrin McCluer, — \$5.

Paid Lathrop Drake — \$150 for finishing the Academy room and \$7.50 for finishing the porch. Paid for painting room \$20.

In 1836 another subscription was taken for a brick building, but this project didn't materialize. However, there was another in 1846 for enlarging the building.

Early Water Street Stores

It will be of interest, especially to the older residents of the community, to recall the early stores and shops on Water Street in Fredonia. From the year 1867 the occupants of these places of business changed a number of times. To records of the late Mr. Lewis Colburn whose home was on Water Street, I am indebted for the verification of the following facts which show the changes to 1932. The very recent changes for the provision of the Fredonia Plaza parking entrance, of course, eliminated some buildings.

Beginning first with the name of the occupant in 1867 the list of owners, renters or managers for each site, terminates with the occupant in 1932. Beginning at Main Street the list continues down Water Street on the east side to the homes and on the west side from Main Street to Canadaway Creek.

On the east side of Water Street at Main where the Manufacturers and Traders Trust Co. is now located, the corner site has been occupied by Taylor and Jennings, dry goods and general store; Taylor's General Store; Howard Bros., books, stationery and jewelry; H. C. Robinson,

books, stationery, and school supplies; Citizens Bank; Citizen's Trust Co.

Asa Ellis, meats; Fargo & Lamphear, meats! Fargo & Kurtz, meats; Frank Dorsett, drugs; F. E. Newton, groceries.

Stanley & Andrews, harness shop; Albert Andrews, harness shop; Sam & George Zahm, meats; Clark, optician.

J. F. Brown, groceries, George Blood, furniture; George Knight, groceries; A. R. Maytum, groceries; I.X.L. Restaurant, Fred Larsen; Lesandro's Pool Room and Bowling Alleys.

Mr. Hughes, saloon and pool room; Alvah Colburn, Colburn Gas Co.; Thomas Earnshaw, plumbing.

Delos Beebe, residence and saloon; Briggs Hardware; Briggs Laundry; Kimball Bros., laundry; Taylor's Laundry; Dog Wagon, Reynor's Barber Shop and Shoe Repairing Shop.

Willard Lewis, dwelling and meat market; George Blood and Son, furniture and undertaking; back of the Lewis residence — Mullet's Livery and, later, Cadwell's Livery; Miller's Furniture Store.

Fred Gibbs, Rat Pit Restaurant; Walt Gibbs, restaurant; Barkell Wall Paper Store.

Dr. Charles Smith's office; Fredonia Seed Co.; Good Seed Co.

On the west side of Water Street beginning at Main Street where the Liberty Bank and Trust Co. is now located the site has been occupied by Mrs. Van Cleek; Putnam Bros., dry goods; Mixer Bros., dry goods; Harry Clothier, dry goods; Mr. Milne, dry goods; First National Bank.

F. B. Wilson, meats (a wooden building in back was built by Lewis Crocker and Ephraim Wilson); Sam and George Zahm, meats; Zahm and Zeiser, meats; Zeiser's Meat Market.

Charles Francis, bakery; Frank Howard, bakery; Lon Lewis, bakery; Barth's Bakery; A. R. Maytum, grocery; F. E. Newton, grocery; George Her- rick, electrician; Bock and Lud- wig, plumbing.

George Kohler, harness shop; Home Bakery.

Hermann & Reuther, show room; Flickinger's.

Anthony Laux, saloon; Her- mann & Reuther, carriage shop; Niagara, Lockport & Ontario Power Co.

John Munger, harness shop; Rushwood, umbrella mender, Case; and Zahm, hardware Stearns & Cook, harness shop; Charles Slaght, plumbing; Hart- leb, plumbing.

The Fredonia Hotel, built by Mr. Norton, was occupied first by Leigh Harrisan. He was fol- lowed by Porter Paine, Porter Pemberton, Jack Stebbins, Joe Boehm, Mr. Wells, George Kopp, G. A. Winch and George Stoke.

The site of the present garage was Dr. Wilbur's office and residence; Watson Woods, livery; George Shero, livery.

Nearer the Canadaway Creek was True Allen's house; Dwight Dutton's house. Further south were Watson Woods, livery; Dwight Dutton, livery; Sam Apthorpe, garage and sales.

Capt. Enoch A. Curtis

Among the most prominent and public spirited citizens of Fredonia was the late Capt. Enoch A. Curtis. He was a repre- sentative of one of the old and most respected families of Chau- tauqua County and he produced a lasting influence upon the life of this progressive community.

Enoch A. Curtis, the eldest child of Issaac C. and Susan (Hunter) Curtis, was born in the Town of Busti, July 19, 1831. His paternal grandfather was the Rev. Enoch Curtis, a native of New Hampshire, who served as a Methodist Episcopal minister in Western New York for some years. Issaac Curtis and his young wife purchased from the Holland Land Co. 100 acres of uncleared land in the Town of Busti and here erected their log house.

The first school of the district

was built on a corner of the farm of Isaac Curtis. Here Enoch began his school life and later, at the age of 17, he attended the Jamestown Academy. Teach- ing school in the Winter months he continued to assist on the farm during the remainder of the year.

Possessed of a natural talent and skill for planning and build- ing he found that field of work more appealing than farming and so to this art he turned his at- tention.

On Oct. 3, 1855, Enoch Curtis and Jennie E. Norton, the second daughter of Morris Norton of Ashville, were united in mar- riage. To them were born two daughters; Isabel Kent (the late Mrs. F. C. Chatsey of Fredonia) and Miss Edith Norton Curtis, for many years a teacher of Art in the Fredonia Normal School.

Upon the call of President Lincoln, in the Spring of 1862, for 300,000 men, Mr. Curtis immediately responded, enlisting in the Union Army for three years' service. Taking out enlistment papers, he recruited a company of volunteers, was elected and commissioned Captain of Co. D of the 112th N. Y. Volunteers, which he commanded during the many campaigns and battles in which his regiment was engaged.

Thus he continued in the service of his country until after the Battle of Cold Harbor June 1, 1864 in which he received severe wounds which made him unable to remain in military service. On Sept. 13, 1864 he was honorably discharged and was brevetted Major by Gov. Fenton for gallantry at Cold Harbor. It has been stated by members of Co. D that although a strict disciplinarian, Capt. Curtis was an understanding man.

When partially recovered from his wounds Capt. Curtis established his residence here in Fredonia. After engaging in mercantile business for a few years he felt physically able to resume his work in the field of architecture to which he then devoted his time. His artistic ability and skill, combined with his study and practical experience, resulted in great success in this work and he became known as the outstanding architect in Western New York.

Capt. Curtis acknowledged a citizen's responsibility to the community and thus was willing to take an active part in any movement for the progress and betterment of the area. He was ever willing to contribute time, effort and money toward these improvements. He was one of the first to suggest and plan for securing the village water works and sewerage system and it was he who suggested macadam for the streets.

He served several terms on the Board of Water Commissioners,

the Board of Trustees and also as President of the Village. While not classifying himself as a politician he had a seat at the Republican National Convention at St. Louis in 1896 which nominated William McKinley for President. In 1901 Gov. Odell appointed Capt. Curtis as one of the New York State Board for the erection of a monument in Buffalo to President McKinley.

Among the many buildings which Capt. Curtis designed are the following; The Fredonia Village Hall, Normal School Chapel, Gym and Kindergarten; the Aaron Putnam home (now the Home for the Aged), the Aaron Putnam home on Main St. (the present Baker residence), Columbia Hotel (now the site of the Russo Building), Second Presbyterian Church (gone), the Chapel and Gate House at Forest Hill Cemetery, Fredonia Fire Hall, rectory of Roman Catholic Church, tower of the Baptist Church (rebuilt in 1885).

Also, Wright Home on Main St., Westfield, C. M. Wright Home, Erie, Pa.; A. French home, Central Ave.; F. C. Chatsey home, Central Ave.; Frank Cooke home, Central Ave.; Old Brooks Hospital, Dunkirk; St. John's Church, Dunkirk; Avery home (present Elks Club) Dunkirk; Pavilion at Pt. Gratiot (burned), Clarence Howard home, Peoria, Ill.; Oil Exchange, Bradford; Oil Exchange, Titusville, and many homes in Bradford, Titusville, Oil City, and Olean.

The street almost opposite the home of Capt. Curtis is now known as Curtis Place.

Capt. Curtis' busy life came to an end in 1907 as a result of illness caused from the bullet wound received while serving in the Civil War. The funeral service was conducted at the home by the Episcopal rector, the Rev. G.G. Ballard, and the graveside services were in charge of the Holt Post, G.A.R., of which Capt. Curtis was commander.

A Civil War Hero

Another example of courage and gallantry in the Civil War was displayed by Alonzo Hereford Cushing of Fredonia who sacrificed his life at Gettysburg.

Alonzo Cushing was one of four brothers to serve their country. They were grandsons of the pioneer settler of Canadaway (Fredonia), Zattu Cushing, who came from Oneida County, N. Y., in 1805.

This brother was born in Wisconsin in Jan. 19, 1841, the son of Dr. Milton Cushing and his second wife, Mary Barker Cushing. After the early death of his father he came with his mother, brothers and only sister, and half-brothers and sister, to Fredonia to make their home. Alonzo and his brother, William Barker Cushing, were but two years apart in age and were always devoted to each other.

Alonzo and Will, both being quite young when the family settled here in 1847, first attended nursery school. Later the two brothers became students at the Fredonia Academy and in June 1857 Alonzo entered the Military Academy at West Point. From this institution he was graduated with distinguished honors on June 28, 1861. He was 12th in his class and during the latter part of his life at the Academy had the honor of serving as captain of the cadets.

Upon graduation Alonzo Cushing was commissioned second lieutenant of artillery, this being the branch of service for which he had expressed a preference. He was immediately assigned the duty of instructing volunteer regiments for the first advance upon Manassas, and was promoted to first lieutenant. In this operation. Alonzo commanded a section of Green's regular battery.

Although Alonzo Cushing preferred service in the artillery he was appointed chief of ordnance on the staff of Gen. Sumner with the rank of captain. Remaining on the staff of Gen. Sumner during the Peninsular Campaign he participated in every engagement and because of his gallantry was recommended by Gen. Sumner and Gen. McClellan for two brevets.

Requesting to be placed in the artillery again he was given command of a battery which position he filled until after the battle of Antietam. For his heroic courage in this battle he was recommended for a third brevet. It was now that the War Department transferred him to the Topographical Engineer Corps with his first assignment to make an official map of the Antietam battlefield.

Having served in this capacity for some months from September 1862 he again requested a transfer to the artillery, his favorite field. He was assigned to the command of Battery A of the 4th Regiment of the U.S. Artillery where his great ability as a leader was effective in rendering commendable service.

Capt. Cushing engaged in the Pennsylvania Campaign (Army of the Potomac) in June and July 1863 and in the Battle of Gettysburg where he fell July 3, at the age of 22. Battery A was posted in an unprotected position and when Lee's fire of 150 pieces of artillery attacked, Cushing's battery, because of its position, received the brunt of the fire. A fragment of shell struck Capt. Cushing in the thigh and his arm was shattered. When his soldiers begged him to retire he bound a handkerchief about the wound and refused to give up his post.

As the fire ceased, a column of men swiftly advanced, fol-

lowed by another, determined to send the Union army from the field. Cushing's battery was a wreck by this time. Five of his six guns were dismounted, most of his men lay dead. A great storm of bullets swept across the field.

Capt. Cushing, mangled and weak, fired a last charge of canister into the advancing foe. At the same moment a bullet pierced Capt. Cushing's brain and he fell, the last man at the last gun.

The report of his heroic stand is as follows: "He was twice severely wounded before the last death shot struck him, and though urged to leave the gun against which he leaned with shattered arm and thigh, he refused to go, and fought with such desperate resolution that when a shot through the brain laid him lifeless at his post, with dead comrades around him and dead adversaries in front of him, his work of defense had accomplished its object and the

tide of the battle had been turned towards victory for the Union."

Capt. Cushing was brevetted lieutenant - colonel for conspicuous bravery and was buried in West Point. There is a monument erected by the government to commemorate all West Point graduates who fell in the War of the Rebellion. Under 4th United States Artillery, in bronze letters on the marble is the name Lt. Alonzo H. Cushing.

In the Fredonia Forest Hill Cemetery, on one side of the Cushing monument, is the name of Alonzo Cushing, with dates and rank.

At Gettysburg, near the flag pole on a small stone, appears an inscription: "In memory of Lt. A. H. Cushing by Col. R. Penn Smith and his 71st Penn. Vols." A large marker there at "The Angle" states that his Battery A of the 4th U.S. Artillery stood there and that he was killed on the third day repulsing the charge.

Chautauqua Institution

An organization in our county, which began as a Sunday School Assembly at Fair Point on Chautauqua Lake, gradually developed into a great educational force in the United States and into an institution which has enriched the lives of thousands of persons.

It was through the friendship of two men with a common interest, the Rev. John H. Vincent of Plainfield, N. J., a minister and national corresponding Sunday School secretary, and Lewis Miller of Akron, O., an inventor, manufacturer and Sunday School worker, that the movement of the Chautauqua Assembly was founded.

The Erie Conference of the

Methodist Church had secured use of a plot of land at the beautiful cape of Fair Point (now Chautauqua) as a camp meeting site. Mr. Miller succeeded in interesting his friend, the Rev. Vincent, in visiting this location in 1873 and the following year a Sunday School Assembly was conducted there, lasting two weeks.

Although the Assembly, originally designed to provide a broader and more effective training for Sunday School teachers, was started by the Methodists, it was non-denominational. At the first Assembly on Aug. 4, 1874 there sat on the platform a Baptist, a Presbyterian, a Congregationalist and a Methodist.

During the first three years

of Chautauqua's history the aims were all along the line of religious education. The length of the Summer sessions was increased to six weeks. The gates were closed on Sunday thus maintaining the sacredness of the day and also eliminating the usual Sunday picnics at that location.

Chautauqua was not organized as a money-making institution and hence there were no stockholders and all profits were used to improve and to enlarge the grounds. By means of charging an entrance fee the attempts to commercialize the Assembly were thwarted. The trustees, deeply interested in the movement, served without remuneration.

In the early days most of the activity was near the lake front where the few cottages and the small amphitheater were located. The majority of the persons in attendance occupied tents.

The value of visual aid was recognized then for it was believed that the Sunday School teachers should be made familiar with the geography of the Holy Land, Oriental lands and ancient life, through models. An earth replica of Palestine, a plaster replica of Jerusalem and an Oriental house of stucco, a muezzin calling to prayers from a minaret, and a pathway depicting Roman history were skillfully modeled.

Since it was also considered necessary for the Sunday School teachers to be familiar with teaching methods, pedagogical courses were instituted and in order to broaden the interests of the teachers, lectures in the fields of science, travel and literature were arranged. To further expand education, a program of music and art was added. As the educational field followed a natural broadening process recreational activities were also considered an important feature.

From this the founders conceived a plan of education for everyone in every branch of knowledge. Chautauqua thus became the first Summer School and gradually courses for older persons, who were not necessarily seeking a college education, were added.

Chautauqua gradually came to attract persons other than those seeking intellectual atmosphere. Means of transportation improved, the boats now running from Jamestown and from Mayville. It became necessary to construct many cottages, hotels, stores and shops and a large amphitheater.

An outgrowth of the Chautauqua movement was the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle which was organized by Bishop Vincent Aug. 12, 1878. Its aim was to promote habits of reading and study in various fields, especially for those whose opportunities had been limited. The course, planned to cover four years, could be followed by individuals alone or in groups. Examinations were held upon the completion of the courses and awards presented. Thousands of persons throughout the world joined these circles.

During the period between 1880 and 1890 Chautauqua Circuits sprang up throughout the country. These assemblies, covering much of the United States, closely imitated the original plan and program of Chautauqua and served as a means of bringing lectures and entertainment to persons who were unable to enjoy them otherwise.

Prominent speakers in various fields have been welcomed to the platform of the Chautauqua amphitheater. Artists, and choirs have performed there. This institution, chartered by the State of New York, unique in its organization, has been ever dominated by a religious spirit.

